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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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RIPPED UP FORE AND AFT

SHOTS SENT THROUGH BOURGEOIS FALLACIES AND S. P. NONSENSE

Berlin Demonstrations Prove Police Provokers of Disorder—S. P. Yiddish "Vorwaerts" Able Rival of Sister Sheet—"Labor Laws" in Present System Providers of Berths.

If the Kaiser has done nothing else by giving official sanction to open air mass meetings in Berlin's three great parks—Humboldthain, Friedrichshain and Treptow—where over 10,000 people assembled to denounce the Prussian electoral bill, if he has done nothing else he has contributed his mite towards throwing merited ridicule upon the Anarchist claim that the ballot should not be used because it is a "concession" of the ruling class. The proletariat of Berlin were not flim-flammed by Anarchist rhetoric. They promptly and wisely availed themselves of the "concession" of free assemblage and free speech.

The "mother of parliaments," as the British Parliament loves to call itself, is fast developing into the "grand-daughter of parliaments." The alleged mother is adopting the style of the Austrian the American and even the Turkish parliaments. The performances at the session of the House of Commons on the 14th of this month caused many a shindy in the Austrian, the American and even the Turkish dittos to be in danger of losing their laurels. The "Rabble" seems to be invading "Government."

Fuller reports of the large open air demonstrations held in Berlin, from which the police were excluded, and which came off with the orderliness of a ball, justify the conclusion, long arrived at from the facts gathered in this and other countries, that the police are the rioters. Where they put in an appearance disorder breaks out; where they are absent order and peace prevail. "Policed nations" is the title of the bourgeois regime.

It is with mixed feelings that one contemplates Senator La Follette pillorying the Federal Attorney-General and the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railway, and declaring that if, by such manoeuvres as he convicted Attorney-General Wickersham and the New Haven Road of, the door of the Federal court may be closed in the face of a wronged and outraged public, then "the law becomes a black art and justice a mere juggler's pawn." Admiration seizes one at the desperation of the onslaught; pity at its visionariness.

With one bound the "Vorwaerts," Yiddish daily organ of the New York Socialist party, places itself abreast of the "New Yorker Volkszeitung," German ditto of the ditto party, as a topsy-turvy turner of American facts—geographic, political, historic, economic, etc.

Explaining editorially why the S. P. triumph was won in Milwaukee, the "Vorwaerts" perpetrates a discovery that must be framed and hung up beside similar "Volkszeitung" achievements:

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

* We say that the West is the *
* leader of American industry, of *
* American activity, of American *
* capitalism. *

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

According to which Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, in all of which the S. P. is moribund, if not dead, are builded in the "rural East."

"Volkszeitung," look to your laurels! This stroke of "Vorwaerts" originality almost beats that epoch-making stroke of genius of yours concerning the "United States Senator from the State of Chicago."

A bill, introduced in Albany and entitled to Compel Employers to Report Accidents Within Forty-eight hours after they Occur, should be entitled a bill "to Raise the Corruption Fund for Factory Inspectors." What these "Labor Laws" have done, with here and there an exception to prove the rule, has been mainly to render more valuable the "addition, division and silence" that factory inspectors proverbially practice in America. The practical result of our "Labor Laws" is the continuance of factory iniquities with all the greater brazenness.

Aesop produced only one "fly on the wheel." The Socialist party has hatched out a whole lot, at least a dozen in every large town outside of Milwaukee. From New York across the country, via Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis,—East, West and South of Milwaukee—the eyes of these flies are bulging out like crab's goggles at the Cream City, and their bills are chirping: "See what a dust we raise!"

The "West" continues to furnish ungracious facts to the "Vorwaerts," the New York Yiddish organ of the Socialist party, which explained the party's triumph in Milwaukee as the consequence of the West being the leader of American capitalism. The Chicago S. P. election returns for this month's election are nearly 3,000 below the 18,000 "estimate" made by the Chicago "Daily Socialist" of the 6th. The total is 15,192—a drop of 3,650 below the heavy drop of last presidential vote when the S. P. poll was 18,842, or 28,901 votes less than at the previous presidential election. And from Devil's Lake, N. Dak., the information published elsewhere in this issue, is one of complete Socialist party rout. Evidently, North Dakota and Chicago lie in the rural districts of the East.

Though short on Charity, the greatest of the three Christian virtues, the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Denis O'Callaghan and the Rt. Rev. Mgr. M. J. Splain are decidedly long on Faith and Hope. Just now and just after the signal defeat met in the Massachusetts Legislature by their political machine, in its attempt, by means of the Confessional Bill, to place themselves above the law, and thereby, through the reenactment of Dark Ages legislation, to brace themselves against the tide of Progress that Socialism is leading—just after that signal rebuff, the aforenamed gentlemen meet in Boston on the 10th of this month, and, addressing their fellow Roman Catholic politicians, hopefully and faithfully announce the impossibility of Socialism, and predict the rule of their political party. He who lives in hope dies in despair.

State Excise Commissioner Maynard N. Clement makes a dangerous admission when he declares that "the power to make the liquor traffic law-abiding rests in the hands of the liquor dealers themselves." What becomes of the "Sanctity of the Law" which is supposed to vest the Law with the power to enforce itself, and which in so many instances illustrates its power by operating like a steam-roller upon law-breakers?

Iowa labor seems to be not a day wiser than it was fifteen years ago, when Populism rose and promised to save the wage earners—and, wherever elected, turned the screws tighter upon the workers. At Des Moines E. G. Dunn of the Iowa State Farmers' Co-operative Grain Dealers' Association delivered on the 7th of this month an address extensively reported the following day in the "Register and Leader" of that city. Mr. Dunn spoke impassionately for "justice," the same to be secured by the "union of the workingman and the farmer," and the harangue was enthusiastically applauded by "the laboring men and women" gathered under the auspices of the Iowa State Federation of Labor. Such economic and sociologic views, as those expressed by Mr. Dunn, were excusable in the mouths of the Revolutionary Fathers: they are inexcusable in the mouth of any bourgeois of to-day. Such applause as greeted Mr. Dunn's words from workingmen and women, sufficiently unreasoning as it was in Populist days, is, to-day, downright irrational.

There is hope for Spokane's working class. They are getting on to the professional workingman and bosom friend of Charles H. Moyer—David C. Coates. The protest is going up that the said Coates, who has been pushing himself into labor meetings and presuming to speak for the workers, has no authority to do so; voices his private views only; and is simply allowed in the meetings as any reporter to gather news for his private journalistic venture.

Enter, with swagger, one anti-Socialist, who waves newspaper in front of Socialist's face and cries, "You Socialists say the capitalist class doesn't work, eh? Here's a column article about young Clement Gould Amory, working ten hours a day in his millionaire father's motor boat works at Morris Heights!" Socialist: "How many more men do you suppose there are in that shop besides him?" "Two or three hundred, I guess." "Any column article about their working ten hours a day?" "N-n-no." "Why do you think there's one about him, then?" "Because—er—because—hang it!—because it's so unusual, I——" (Slinks off with his newspaper trailing dejectedly out of his rear pocket.)

A recent "book review" states that although "Uncle Tom's Cabin" sold over 300,000 copies during the first four years, within a very few years its sales have so fallen off as to remove it from the ranks of the "best seller." "Uncle Tom's Cabin" deserves revival. Of course Bellamy's "Looking Backward" should be read by all Socialists, and all Socialists should promote its being read by others. Nevertheless, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is a quarry from which the Socialist of to-day can gather more ammunition than from any other one work of fiction. In the realm of fiction, and until the Socialist Movement shall have kindled into life the "Socialist novel," "Uncle Tom's Cabin" deserves the demand that shall restore it as a "best seller."

ANSWERING MR. BERGER

We hold no brief from the Republican, or the Democratic party. Even if such were offered to us, it would be declined. At variance though we are with the Socialist party on what it calls Socialism and the methods to attain the same, the national organ of the Socialist Labor Party may not forget that the International Congress, of which the S. L. P. is a constituency, recognizes the S. P. as a member of the "Socialist Family." The idea of our stepping into the shoes of any Republican or Democrat in their conflicts with the S. P. is, of course, excluded. This notwithstanding we feel free to answer Victor L. Berger a question that he put to his Republican and Democratic adversaries through the columns of the Milwaukee "Journal" of April 1, at the time of the recent municipal elections in that city.

After enumerating a number of plants which the city should start—street car lines, city slaughter houses, lighting plants—and stating that the Republicans and Democrats were fearfully excited lest these Social Democratic improvements raise the taxes, Mr. Berger asks:

"Has the city ownership of these things in other cities raised the taxes?"

And he answers:

"Not once."

So say we too—but we add: "The answer is only half an answer from the representative of a party, that, together with the demand for these municipalizations, promises higher wages."

Probably the taxes have not been raised in any of the cities, American or European, in which such plants have been municipalized. Certainly, even if taxes should be found to have gone up in any of those cities, the cause of the increased tax will be found somewhere else. We may go further: more than likely, a careful scrutiny of the budget would reveal the fact that, but for the municipalizations, taxes would be higher; in other words, that the actual effect of the municipalizations upon taxes is rather a reduction of the tax rate.

Why?

Because wages were not raised. Because the workers continued, afterwards as before, wage slaves, bought and sold in the Labor Market under the conditions that all other chattels are sold. Because their price was, afterwards as before, determined by supply and demand. In the measure that wages were to rise the tax rate would put on a different complexion.

What the top-capitalist really objects to, when he raises objections to municipalization, is not an increase of taxes. He knows better. What he objects to is a decrease of income. If the plant upon whose profits the capitalist lives is municipalized, then the profits, which he formerly pocketed all alone, would be shared by the other capitalists. They being the taxpayers, would pocket their share of the municipal profits, in the shape of reduced taxes; and, of all his own former profits, there would be left nothing but the slight difference between the former higher and the later lower tax rate.

In the last analysis, municipalization is a middle class, or petty-bourgeois move. Only the petty bourgeois can profit thereby, because only he gains without losing aught—he owns no industry to be municipalized, and he is relieved by a lowered tax rate.

As an ultimate consequence, municipalization hits the proletariat on both sides of the head:—

From the top-capitalist, whose plant has been municipalized, and the consequent loss of whose income, as explained above, is recouped only by the small portion of reduced taxation that falls to his share,—from him the proletariat receives on one side of its head a whack that comes obedient to the law of the capitalist's existence, to wit, the endeavor to recoup himself as much as possible for actual loss. And that can be done only by reducing wages, whereby to press the tax rate lower still.

From the middle class, or petty bourgeois, to whom, as explained above, municipalization brings the unalloyed benefit of lower taxes, and, therefore, comes in the nature of an increased income,—from him the proletariat receives on the other side of its head another whack, a whack that is dealt obedient to the law of bourgeois existence. As the taste of blood with the beast of prey awakens an appetite for more blood, the taste of a raised income awakens the bourgeois' appetite for more. And that likewise translates itself into a pushing for lower wages, whereby to lower taxes still more, whereby to enjoy a still larger income.

Obviously, municipalization neither does, nor can, raise the taxes. Obviously, the mouth of him, who, under the colors of "Socialism," promises "municipalization" and "higher wages" in the same breath, can give but the half answer of "No" to the question, Has municipalization ever raised taxes? Obviously, the full, square-jointed answer can come only from the "Impossibilist," that is, the Socialist who sees not in the bended back of the proletariat a handy stage for "Socialistic" stunts.

Municipalization is among the deftest of moves to solidify the upper and the lower capitalist divisions. Otherwise at war with each other, municipalization welds them into a compact body "piously and patriotically" set against Socialism—the movement to place into the hands of the proletariat the full social share of their product.

The Executioner's Knife

—OR—

JOAN OF ARC

By EUGENE SUE

Translated from the Original French by DANIEL DE LEON

Of the many works of art—poetic, dramatic, pictorial—that have contributed to rescue the fair fame of the Maid of Orleans, radiant heroine of the people, from clerico-political Anathema, this narrative by the great Sue has been the most powerful. So powerful in fact, that the successors of those who hounded the Maid to death, have felt compelled in this century to beatify her in whose blood their predecessors dyed their hands. A most timely work.

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AN A. F. OF L. VICTORY.

Columbus Carmen and Also Their Bosses Claim Other Side Loses.

Columbus, O., April 12.—The great battle of the trolley car men which wasn't fought is over and both sides are claiming victory. The Columbus car men no longer satisfied with simply rice, revolted and demanded a soup bone. The superintendent of the Rail-Light company on his part sought to tell the men that they were "too extravagant," and therefore he denied them a soup bone for their rice.

Thereupon the workers threatened to revolt, and vowed dire things to the company. The men called in the American Federation of Labor and were going to bring the bosses to their knees, but the latter did not scare.

Then the secretary of the state board of arbitration, Joseph Bishop, was called upon. The outcome was a raise for the trolley workers of one cent an hour, this to go into effect April 8. One half cent an hour will be advanced on January 1, 1911. The other terms provide, (1) that "the employes of the company may come at any reasonable time for conferences with the management on any matter connected with their employment by the company."

(2) "No discrimination against employes because of membership in any union, nor of their right to join any such union."

(3) "The men expelled from the company's employ may return to the employ of the company and take the positions occupied by them respectively at the time of their discharge, provided that the men who were promoted to fill the vacancies so created will assent thereto."

This is what the men call a victory. They don't seem to see that even this bit of an increase will be gobbled up in the shape of dues to that A. F. of L. union.

E. B.

50 JOBS, 2,000 APPLY.

Overwhelming Disproof of the Scarcity of Labor Cry.

In overwhelming proof that there are "two jobs for every man," fully two thousand men called at 133 Liberty street, Thursday, April 14, in answer to an advertisement of the Fidelity Secret Service offering jobs for fifty men.

Edward Hooker of 460 Nostrand avenue, Brooklyn, who was in charge of the office, was signing up applicants. By ten o'clock the divisors had greatly multiplied while the paltry number of jobs had diminished. Men began to fight for position near Hooker's door, and while reserves were on the way from the Fulton street police station former Policeman James Patterson of 445 Flushing avenue, Brooklyn, who was recently dismissed from the police force for being absent from post, got into trouble.

In clearing the street and untangling the traffic policemen arrested two men besides Hooker and Patterson. The four were arraigned in the Tombs Police Court before Magistrate Barlow on a charge of disorderly conduct. All were discharged.

DROPS IN HARTFORD ALSO

The Socialist Party Vote There Takes A Big Slump

Hartford, Conn., April 11.—The municipal election of April 5 has resulted as generally expected. A Republican victory—with the exception of the mayor. The latter would also have been elected had he not been knifed by the very same Republicans who elected the other candidates to office.

Though excitement ran high the vote cast was considerably less than two years ago. Two years ago I. A. Sullivan was defeated, but he received nearly 500 more votes than E. L. Smith, the present mayor. The Socialist vote has not made any progress in the past two years, but on the contrary, it has gone down, the S. P. the more so, whereas the S. L. P. has remained about stationary. In 1908 the S. P. polled for mayor, 362 votes, and this year 207. The S. L. P. polled for the same office in the same years respectively 79 and 72.

STEEL COMPANY PENSIONS

Empire of Steel to Link Its Subjects Tight.

The United States Steel Corporation, following its recent announcement of an increase in the wages of its 200,000 employees, has just issued another announcement that it will provide for those of its workmen disabled or killed in its plants. There is intended to be a sort of pension fund and disability payment, or as some call it a voluntary employers' liability plan. The stipulations made for compensating injured workmen or their families, when the father meets death at his job, are, however, such inadequate sums as one may expect from capitalist employers, and do not nearly insure the afflicted for the losses sustained.

The action of the Steel Corporation was looked upon in Wall street as another move in the corporation's policy of keeping its men loyal and circumventing Socialist and labor union arguments.

The plan as outlned by ex-Judge Gary, chairman of the steel company is stated as follows:

"Under this plan relief will be paid for temporary disablement and for permanent injuries and for death. The relief is greater for married men than for single men, and increases according to the number of children and length of service. During temporary disablement single men receive 35 per cent of their wages and married men 50 per cent, with an additional 5 per cent for each child under sixteen and 2 per cent for each year of service above five years.

"In case men are killed in work accidents, their widows and children will receive one and one-half years' wages, with an additional 10 per cent for each child under sixteen and 3 per cent for each year of service of the deceased about five years."

A CHANCE FOR YOU.

"The Executioner's Knife; or, Joan of Arc," one of the most sublime of the monumental Eugene Sue series of historic novels now gotten out for the first time in English by the New York Labor News Company, will begin serially in the Daily People of Sunday, April 24.

Here is a chance for you, spreaders of The People, to introduce it into new places and win new friends for it. This story alone is worth the price of a three months' sub., and should enable you to get the paper into the hands of any number of your friends and shopmates who need the solid education The People alone can give.

Besides this noble and touching story of the martyr Maid of Orleans, The People will contain in the three months period its usual fund of inspiriting propaganda matter, and close reports on labor matters as seen through Socialist eyes the country over.

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UNDER AUSTRALIAN SKIES

GLIMPSE OF THE WORKING CLASS TRAGEDIES ENACTED.

Trial of Miners' Leaders for "Conspiracy"—Peter Bowling Scorns to Ask Mercy—Dynamiting Tricks Shoved on Workingmen's Shoulders—Ineffectual Moves of Craft Unionists.

Sydney, New South Wales, March 12.—The officials of the Miners' Federation were brought to trial on February 1st on a trumped up charge of conspiracy. The master class were determined that the arrested men should be jailed for lengthy periods, the head and front of their offending being that they fought ably and strenuously for the redress of grievances of the class they belong to. The scene of the capitalist legal operations was changed from Newcastle, the scene of the strike, to Sydney, a city for the most part hostile to the miners because perforce its business and commercial interests were for the time being jeopardized and the wage slaves therein employed were slightly inconvenienced by being compelled to use "Shank's pony" in their daily hurryings to the master.

The trial was conducted in a bitter and revengeful spirit by the judicial lackeys of the capitalist class. The result was a foregone conclusion. During the trial an explosion was engineered on the Aberdare railroad at Newcastle by the agents of the capitalist class, a culvert being blown up. The authorities, being exasperated at the good order and discipline maintained in the miners' ranks, seek to prejudice the miners' cause by making it appear that they were responsible for the explosion.

On February 7th, a body of men calling themselves the International Industrialists, circularized the craft unions, calling upon them to institute a 48 hour general strike to commence from February 8th as a protest against the jailing of the strike leaders, whose trial was just concluding. The strike was to be inaugurated by a monster procession of the combined craft unionists of Sydney, demanding the capitulation of the capitalist class and the immediate release of the union prisoners. They published their plans broadcast but they reckoned without the ever-present armed physical force. The craft unions ignored the invitation to lay down tools. On February 8th about 1,000 men, unarmed, undisciplined and defenceless, mostly craft union longshoremen on strike, hoisted the red flag, the significance of which, and its international character, the majority did not understand, marched through the streets to the courthouse where the strike victims were being tried. At its destination the procession was broken up by a strong body of police, the flag seized, and the leaders gathered in.

Such tactics show the weakness of the working class position, and defeat the object sought, bringing ridicule and contempt on the workers involved. It was a harmless procession, nevertheless the least show of effective resistance would have ended in bloodshed.

In the police court proceedings, which followed, the two leaders, Considine and Feldhausen, were savagely jailed for 18 months each. Numerous others were heavily fined and imprisoned for varying periods.

On February 10 the jury, composed of small business men, after a retirement of less than half an hour and without reviewing the lengthy evidence of a ten days trial, brought in a verdict of guilty. The jury sarcastically recommended the prisoners to mercy on account of previous good character. The judge, after the usual stereotyped summing up, disregarded the jury's recommendation, and with the usual capitalist ferocity, sentenced Gray, Bowling, Brennan, Burns and Lewis to 18 months hard labor on each count of the indictment, to be concurrent, except in the case of Bowling, whose sentence would be cumulative on the 12 months he was already serving, viz., 2½ years in all.

Previous to the sentence the prisoners made eloquent speeches from the dock. During his speech, Bowling said that the law as it stood to-day made the carrying out of the duties of any union impossible because it would be unsafe to hold office. He knew that in acting as

(Continued on page six.)

AN "OBJECTION" TO SOCIALISM

THE BUGABOO OF "DIRTY WORK," SO OFTEN RAISED, EXAMINED.

The number of absurd objections brought forward against Socialism is legion, and they are perennial. The champions on the opposing side never seem to learn, and occasionally new champions trot the trite arguments out. But naught avails them.

Recently it was to my amusement and no little satisfaction to hear half a dozen of these stories rehashed. It was of no small satisfaction to see how hopelessly a college professor, an intellectual, floundered around trying to score points against Socialism, and it was refreshing to see how unshakeably Socialism withstood his efforts. You do not properly appreciate its strength until you see it put to the test as it was done there. Then it not only comes out of the fray unscathed, but it also reveals how little reputable opponents themselves understand the economic forces of their own system, to say nothing of their ignorance on developments which would occur under Socialism. Our professor was a type of such opponent, and the only thing he did on this occasion was to expose his mental blindness, and therefore unreliableness of his doctrine.

John Bates Clark, of Columbia University, was the lecturer in question. His topic :"The Vain Hope of Socialism." It was his purpose to show that, however laudable, Socialism would shatter the hopes of its followers because under it everything would go endwise, nothing would work out as anticipated, and then the entire fabric would fall to pieces. And what were his reasons? Socialism would mean "slavery," "it would kill incentive," "it would make people do disagreeable work," and generally would go wrong.

It is upon the matter of "doing the disagreeable work" that the professor merits taking up. The treatment of this topic, involving as it does some other points, will serve the double purpose of exposing the short-sightedness of our opponent with regard to things about him, and of refuting his argument against Socialism.

To object to Socialism on the ground that it would MAKE some do the dirty work, scavenging, for example, implies that capitalism does NOT MAKE anyone do it, and that people do it as a matter of choice. Yet how false is such an implication. Certainly, the aversion which the professor would have for disagreeable work, and which he is sure others would have, is no less felt by the laborers who perform that work to-day. And yet they do it. Why? Because they choose to do so? Nonsense! If they had any preferences they would most likely go automobiling, but they don't; they are scavengers because the system COMPELS them to be; economic necessity FORCES them to it. Of course they have the "right" to refuse—and starve. Blatchford has it right when he says: "Clearly we all recognize that scavenging is unpleasant work. Clearly we all agree that no man would do it from choice. But some men do it, and the inference is that they do it on compulsion. They do it, and are made to work long hours for low wages, and are despised for their pains. This is gross tyranny and gross injustice, but it is only another example of the meanness, the selfishness, and the dishonesty of those whom we falsely call the refined and superior classes."

Well, then, if capitalism compels people to do certain things why would it be wrong if Socialism did so? But the professor tries to conceal the fact that capitalism does so.

Another point, and this shows the ungratefulness of the professor and all his kind. This holy horror for distasteful work indicates something else, a something usually not admitted, and in fact generally frowned down: the paramount importance of the scavenger to society. It is not necessary at this point to go into the interested motives for frowning him down, it is only purposed to show that our ash-cart man and street cleaner is a primal necessity, and the alarm at once raised by these holy of holies proves it. Yet capitalism so poorly rewards its scavengers with mean wages and longer hours. And when Socialists, leaving aside for the moment the professor's pet political economy theory that "supply of a thing and the demand for it determine its value," and that the supply of willing scavengers under Socialism, would, according to the professor's own assertions, be scarce, and that would therefore enhance their "value,"—when Socialists, leaving all this aside, propose to pay a man a rate which might equal such a professor's for doing what he refuses to do, he throws up his hands in terror and exclaims :"What! Class a common laborer with a professor? Ye gods and perdition!" Such is the ungratefulness of these men.

So much for the objection in question to begin with. Those using the objection have their feet on a sandy foundation at the start.

Is there really any reason for supposing that under Socialism all the disagreeable features that attach to some lines of industry to-day would exist then? This question may be safely answered in the negative, and for these reasons: First, much of the odiousness, and probably the greater part, attaching to "distasteful" tasks is due to the meager remuneration. This condemns men to a life of poverty. It is the association of squalid quarters, shoddy clothes, and a poor living consequent upon the small pay that places the occupation on the list of undesirable. No opportunity is afforded for leisure or culture. But the objectionable conditions need not necessarily form a part of the occupation. There is no reason why the hours could not be shortened and the pay lengthened, and that is just what Socialism proposes to do. This removes much of the hated feature of such an occupation.

There is another, a second reason, for asserting that where work contains disagreeable features at present, these could be greatly removed under Socialism. This short extract from the Fabian essays tells its own tale: "Much of the disagreeable and laborious work might be done by machinery, as it would be now if it were not cheaper to exploit a helot class. When it became illegal to send small boys up chimneys, chimneys did not cease to be swept; a machine was invented for sweeping them." There you have it. Many are the inventions which might be utilized to perform tasks that are onerous to-day, numerous the sanitary measures, ventilating appliances and other precautions that could be introduced, but for the private employer to do so would mean expense, a cut into his profits; human life is cheaper; and so human beings are sacrificed on the altar of capitalism.

Considering these facts, it will be seen that the claims of the professor are ill founded. Capitalism compels, it doesn't allow men to choose; consequently the objection to Socialism compelling men doesn't hold good. Capitalism is a stepfather to its sons of toil, those particularly who do the objectionable work to-day; Socialism would treat them as men. Capitalism imposes disagreeable conditions; Socialism would remove them. And so the professor's predictions turn out at fisticuffs with one another, while the anticipations of Socialism are far from being destroyed. Finally, the learned opponent's weaknesses stand exposed; Socialism's ruggedness is revealed.

L. S. E.

"The People"

Official Organ of and Owned by the Australian Socialist League and Socialist Labor Party.

A Weekly Paper published for the purpose of spreading Socialist Principles and organizing Socialist Thought. Its mission is to educate and prepare the working class for the approaching day of their emancipation from wage slavery; to point the way to class-conscious organization for economic and political action that the days of capitalist bondage might be quickened unto the dead things of the past.

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WORKINGMEN'S LIBERTIES

Adapted from the French of Paul Lafargue for the Sydney "People."

"Fellow worker, they tell us since the Revolution and the Declaration of Independence all men have been free. Are you yourself free?"

"I! I am sure that I am free!"

"Let us think a little; who grants you the right to work?"

"The employer."

"Who fixes the day upon which you shall work?"

"The employer."

"Who fixes your wages?"

"The employer."

"Who sells the produce of your toil, and who pockets the profits?"

"The employer."

"Who grants you or refuses you a day of rest?"

"The employer."

"So, then, to have no right to the produce of your labor, to submit to the will of your employer from morning to night, to be unable to work, that is to say to be unable to eat, yourself, your wife and children, without the permission of your employer, is what you call being free. What fine liberty the Revolution and the Declaration of Independence have given you! Let us continue. Who has the liberty to enrich himself by making the worker, with his wife and children also, toil?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to impose upon the worker that kind of work that will bring him the largest profits?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to show the worker the door when he no longer needs him?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to send the old workers to die of hunger in the gutters, who, in their prime, built up his fortune?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to starve the workers by locking them out when they ask for an increase in their wages?"

"The employer."

"Who has the liberty to use the police, the soldiers, and the judges to subdue the strikers he has driven from his workshops?"

"The employer."

"Friend, the Revolution and the Declaration of Independence have given all the liberties to the employer and slavery to the workman."

1,000 Ironworkers Locked Out.

Canton, O., April 16. — A thousand employees of the Stark Rooling Mills yesterday were locked out and the mill is idle, the result, the management declares, of organization by the men of a brach of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.

Two Pages From Roman History

I Plebs Leaders and Labor Leaders.
II The Warning of the Gracchi.

Two Lectures by Daniel De Leon, Editor of The Daily People.

If you want to know why the Socialist Labor Party denounces the labor fakirs and their dues-paying dupes; spurns sops and palliatives; scorns fusions with hostile classes, read The Two Pages.

A 96-page pamphlet selling at Fifteen Cents.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY
28 CITY HALL PLACE, NEW YORK.

MAISON DU PEUPLE

Description of Belgian Workers' Grand Labor Temple.

An interesting account of the Maison du Peuple, the large meeting house of the Belgian workers in Brussels, is given by Frederick C. Howe in the March monthly issue of "The Outlook." The following extract relates to the house proper and the excellent entertainments provided:

In 1899 the Maison du Peuple moved into its present home, on Joseph Stevens street. The club-house cost $240,000. It is four stories in height. Across the face of the structure are tablets bearing the names of Marx, Proudhon, Volders, and others. The building itself was erected for the purpose. It is a combination club-house, cafe, general store, and office building for the labor movement and Socialist and co-operative propaganda. On the lower floor is a cafe, with a seating capacity of eight hundred persons, where beers, light wines, coffee, and food are sold at a low cost. Beer costs two and a half cents a glass, wines from two to three cents, and coffee two cents. The use of spirits is discouraged, and temperance is promoted by the substitution of lighter drinks. On the same floor is a billiard hall. In the cafe one finds crowds of men and of women, by day as well as in the evening, playing cards, checkers, backgammon, and enjoying themselves in the way that Continental people do in their cafes. Here are to be found the daily papers. To the right as one enters is a general store where clothing and household utensils are sold. On the floor above are the offices of administration from which the affairs of the Co-operative Society as well as the work of the Socialist International and the local trades unions is carried on. Here are some fine paintings representative of social problems; here are the meeting-rooms for allied workclass movements; here are a good library filled with carefully chosen books, and offices for the propagation of the movement, both local and general. Upon the top floor is the Salle des Fetes, where Socialist and labor congresses meet. Here two or three times a week cinematograph entertainments of carefully selected subjects are given, while on Sunday evenings concerts and dramatic performances are given by members of the Maison or invited artists. I attended a concert given by the members of the Theatre des la Monnaie in May last. It was like the best symphony concerts of America. There was nothing that was frivolous. The audience was critical and appreciative. The concert lasted till nearly midnight. The hall was crowded with what looked like a middle-class audience of clerks, small business men, and artisans. Possibly the charge of ten cents was prohibitive. There was a fine camaraderie between the audience and the performers. Many of the artists were Socialists, which seems to be not unusual in Belgium, for Socialism is the party which protests most strongly against the Catholic Church and its influence in politics.

In this hall, supported by a very small charge for admission, the cause of the workers is promoted by the presentation of serious plays, by lectures and concerts, while the cinematograph is used, not only to entertain, but to instruct by homely and trenchant mottoes which appeal to the children.

Art, music, and the drama—all these things form a part of the co-operative movement in Belgium. Not the cheap and the tawdry, not the vulgar and the low, such as is given to us by managers in America, on the plea that this is what the American people want, but the best, the highest, and the most worth while that their limited means permit them to produce. When one sees the eager, awakened look in the the eyes of the working classes, one is forced to wonder whether the theatrical managers in America who insist that we get what we really want do not really give us what they themselves want—what appeals to their uncultured if not vulgar ideals, assuming that what pleases them must be the universal taste of the people.

This Is a "Settlement."

Trenton, April 16.—Everything is being brought to bear to effect a "settlement" of the strike at the works of the John A. Roebling Sons Company, where the laborers want an increase in pay from $1.35 to $1.50 a day. The company has made a tentative offer of piecework, so that every man on strike may be pushing himself to the utmost, earn about $1.50 a day. The strike leaders say that the men are to vote on it this Sunday.

DESCRIPTIVE

Of the Sue Stories as Published to Date.

"The Mysteries of the People," by Eugene Sue, consists of nineteen stories, and the chronological order of those published is the wollowing:

The Gold Sickle; or, Hena, the Virgin of the Isle of Sen, price 50 cents.

This is the initial story; it portrays Gaul under the Druids. In this tale we learn of the simple customs of the Gallic people, their industries, their bravery, lofty yet childlike—as they were at the time of the Roman invasion by Caesar, 58 B.C.

The Brass Bell; or, the Chariot of Death, price 50 cents.

This story is the thrilling introduction to the conflict of classes that started with the conquest of Gaul.

The Iron Collar; or, Faustina and Syomara, price 50 cents.

Depicts the institution of slavery among the Romans. Sue's genius reproduces that remarkable epoch in the annals of man with wonderful vividness.

The Silver Cross; or, the Carpenter of Nazareth, price 50 cents.

This is a marvelous presentation of one of the world's leading events in a garb without which that event is stripped of its beauty and significance.

The Casque's Lark; or, Victoria, the Mother of the Camps, price 75 cents.

Here for the first time the descendants of the Conqueror and conquered the two types running through the stories, meet, and cross swords. The period is about the third century A. D., the star of the Roman empire being in the decline.

The Poniard's Hilt; or, Karadeucq and Ronan, price 75 cents.

Reproduces a most interesting epoch in the annals of the social structure that preceded our own—an important epoch that the dry-as-dust historians have altogether neglected.

The Branding Needle; or, the Monastery of Charolles, price 50 cents.

The tragic and the peaceful are commingled in this tale, Queen Brunhild being the tragic figure.

The Abbatial Crosier; or, Bonaik and Septimine, price 50 cents.

Chronicles the turbulent epoch that rocked the cradle of the Carlovingian dynasty—the period that determined feudalism as a social institution.

Carlovingian Coins; or, the Daughters of Charlemagne, price 50 cents.

The Age of Charlemagne is the watershed of the history of the present era. The intellect comes to the front and the barbarian spirit is toned down.

The Iron Arrow-Head; or, the Buckler Maiden, price 50 cents.

Treats of the Norman invasion; an invasion that differed from all others in having war and adventure for its goal. Such alone being its objects, we are indebted to the Normans for the impulse given to oratory, poetry, music and the fine arts.

The Infant's Skull; or, The End of the World, price 50 cents.

The belief that the end of the world would happen in the year 1,000 led to vast and disastrous mundane effects. This was the time when religious institutions came into great wealth yielded up in the belief that it would no longer be needed.

The Pilgrim's Shell; or, Fergan the Quarryman, price 75 cents.

A vivid picture of feudalism at the time that its successor, the present social system, was struggling for a foothold. The inner history of the Crusades, dug from the records, forms the romantic background for a matchless historical presentation.

The Iron Pincers; or, Mylio and Karvel, price 50 cents.

In this tale we observe that music and poetry chasten the hitherto harsh lines; nevertheless religious bigotry still reigns supreme. It was at this epoch that the religious persecution of the Albigensians took place.

The Iron Trevet; or, Jocelyn the Champion, price 75 cents.

The Age of Chivalry in its decline. Courtly customs for the few, based on the relentless exploitation of the many, have run their destined course—luxurious degeneracy above leading to a wasted stock and the loss of the mother country to the invader;—misery and drudgery below leading to the great agrarian revolt of the Peasant's War.

The Executioner's Knife; or, Joan of Arc, price $1.00.

An era of national formation. Surmounting the grovelling materialism of the age, harassed throughout by petty jealousies, betrayed and hounded to death by the ecclesiastical arm of the ruling powers, the radiant heroine of the people is pictured leading her nation to victory against the invader, and starting it in the path of a unified existence.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., 28 City Hall Place, N. Y.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

VOTERS OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA!

A MESSAGE FROM THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY—DON'T THROW YOUR VOTES AWAY—DON'T LET YOURSELVES BE DECEIVED BY THE CAPITALIST POLITICAL PARTIES ANY LONGER.

Fellow Workers: The Socialist Labor Party calls upon you to read and study the principles of the various parties so that you may be able to cast an intelligent vote. Two things you should know before you vote: first, There being two classes in society—the capitalist class and the wage working class,—to which of these classes do you belong? Second, Which of the political parties represents your class? Unless you know which class you belong to, and which one of the political parties represents your class, you can not cast an intelligent vote.

If you are a wage worker you are as much subject to the command of the capitalist as if you were his property under the law. You must go to his factory because you have got to work; he is the master of your job. While you are working you are a tenant on this planet, but when out of work you are a trespasser on the private property of the capitalist class. That is your lot in the capitalist system; and the Republican, Democrat and Prohibition parties stand for the continuation of the capitalist system.

The Socialist movement is the world wide working class movement, organizing the working class industrially as well as politically to conquer for the working class at the earliest possible moment the control of industry.

Every few years there is a panic industrial paralysis, and hundreds of thousands of workers are forced into the streets; no work, no wages; and so they throng the highways in search of employment, which can not be found. They become tramps, vagrants, outcasts and criminals. The working millions who produce the wealth have little or nothing to show for it.

We of the Socialist Labor Party put up a political ticket as a means of taking a referendum vote of the people on the question of Capitalism or Socialism. We have therefore written our demands, and organized a party to voice those demands. We are building a movement for a revolution by organizing the workers industrially and politically; and if the election returns are falsified to prevent the inauguration of Socialism, we shall determine for ourselves what growth the movement has attained, and by a true count of our own learn when the people are ready for the Revolution. When the working class will have entrenched themselves by industrial organization in sufficient industries, and when the majority of the people will have registered themselves in favor of our revolutionary demands, then the capitalist class must surrender their control of industry. Then we, the industrially organized working class will proclaim the industrial democracy.

Already the sentiment in favor of Socialism is quite general. We have succeeded in establishing a sound foundation of the revolutionary movement. Forward, then with the organization of the workers; extend the domain of the Industrial Workers of the World more and more over industrial operations. Forward with energy and the time will not be long before we shall have control of enough of the industries of the country to assert our authority, and overthrow the rule of capitalism. Forward with the propaganda for a rising Socialist Labor Party vote to assure the workers that their day is approaching; that society is awakening, and is turning from a position of upholding the ruinous reign of Capitalism, to a full recognition of the rights of the workers, and of society as a whole. Onward with the organization of the Socialist Labor Party.

VOTE FOR WILLIAM E. McCUE FOR MAYOR.

The below is the national platform of our Party.

PLATFORM

Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land on and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle; and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class.

Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessaries of life.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

EFFECT OF "LABOR LAWS"

UNDER CLASS RULE, THEIR BENEFIT TO WORKERS IS NIL—RAILROADS KILL AND MAIM MORE THAN BEFORE SAFETY LAWS WERE PASSED.

It was several years ago that certain "fanatics" and "interested parties" began urging upon Congress the enactment of a law requiring railroads to equip trains and cars engaged in interstate commerce with safety appliances, such as airbrakes and automatic couplers. The railroad employees of the country, of course, were interested. Likewise, of course, the railroads were interested. The railway employees were interested in favor of the legislation, because they believed it would reduce the hazard of theor employment and save their lives and limbs. The railway managers were interested against the legislation, because it would "interfere" with the management of their business and would require them to make expenditures of money, which they believed would not appropiately increase their ability to pay dividends. The "fanatics" were in favor of legislation because they believed it to be right and humane.

For years the representatives of the railway employees and other advocates of this form of "paternalism" pleaded vainly with Congress to pass this legislation. While the representatives of the railway employees stood, hat in hand, outside the doors of Congressional committee rooms with their respectful petitions, the representatives of the railways sat within, dictating the course of legislation. So the matter stood until 1893, when finally the passage by Con- ess of the Federal Safety Appliance A t was forced by a wave of public opinion.

And such has been the course of all other legislation of a similar character. The law to promote the safety of employees and the railway employers' liability law had a similar history. It is a fair commentary on American railway management that an act of Congress was required to compel the railroads to equip their locomotives with ash-pans, so that the ashes might be removed from under the fire-box without obliging the men charged with that duty to crawl under the wheels of locomotives that might stand still while they were doing it and might not. One after another, these laws for the protection of human life and human limb have been opposed by the railroads; have been decried by them as "arbitrary," an "unwarranted interference" with the management of railway property by its owners, as "impracticable," as "paternalistic," as "Socialistic," and what not. Step by step Congress, always at first on the side of the railroads, has been compelled by the force of public opinion to yield the passage of these just laws. Always the wise policy of this legislation has been denied by the railroads and their representatives in Congress, and always its efficacy and practicability have been disputed. Also, as would be expected, experience in the actual operation of these laws, has been to disprove the contentions of their opponents and to justify those of their advocates.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has just issued a circular, showing the results of the operation of the safety appliance law in reducing the number of injuries to railway employees in the branches of railway employment to which that law particularly applies. The most important and most efficient provision of the safety appliance law, as amended and as construed by the courts, is that which requires railroads to equip cars used in moving interstate traffic with couplers which couple the cars automatically by impact and which can be uncoupled without the necessity of men going between the ends of the cars.

The statistics of railroad accidents are furnished to the Interstate Commerce Commission by the railroads themselves. They are compiled by the Commission and published from time to time. These statistics show that in the year 1893, before the safety appliance law was in force, one out of every 349 railway employees employed in coupling and uncoupling cars was killed, and that one out of every 13 so employed was injured, in many cases maimed and crippled for life. Think of it! Out of all the railroad conductors, trainmen, switch tenders, crossing tenders, and watchmen, who went to work for the railroads that year, one of 349 went to his death and one out of every 13 "assumed the risk!" Is it any wonder that the railway employees of the country begged Congress to pass a safety appliance law?

But note the difference after the law is in operation. In 1908, of the railway employees in this class the number killed was only one out of 62 so employed. The proportion of casualties due to coupling was reduced from 44.33 per cent of the total in 1893 to 8.87 per cent. in 1908!

In other words out of every three lives that were lost under the "let alone" policy of permitting the railroads to "manage their business as they saw fit,"—with one eye on the traffic and the other eye on the stock ticker,—at least two represented just so much waste of human life! And out of every five employees injured, at least four represented that much needless pain, suffering and loss! We say "needless," because this much of death and injury has since been saved by the operation of "paternalistic" laws and of "goverment interference." We say "at least," because more can be saved. The decrease in coupling casualties has been more than offset by the increase in casualties from other causes.

Thus, while the total number of casualties due to coupling fell from more than 300 out of every 10,000 trainmen employed in 1893 to a little over 100 in 1908, the casualties from other causes increased from 600 out of every 10,000 trainmen in 1893 to more than 1,200 in 1908.

The result is that in spite of the beneficent operation of the safety appliance law and other laws reducing the number of coupling casualties, the total number of casualties from all causes increased from something over 1,100 in each 10,000 trainment in 1893 to nearly 1,400 in 1908.

Something is wrong!

Policies of railway management which resulted in the year of 1908 in killing and injuring 86,837 employees on American railroads demand correction!

What then is the tendency in railway management which is responsible for this increasing hazard of railroad service?

The employees of the railroads—the men in the business—have been complaining for some time that the hazard of their employment is being increased, especially in the train service, by the imposition upon them by their employers of excessive and increasing burdens. The complaints of the trainment, based upon their daily experience, are fully sustained by the statistics furnished by the railroads to the Interstate Commerce Commision.

The number of tons carried by the railroads for each trainman employed in 1893 was 5,085, while in 1908 it was 7,358, an increase of 2,273 tons per man.

The average number of tons in a train in 1893 was 184, while in 1908 it was 352, an increase of 168 tons per train.

The unmber of freight cars for each trainman employed in 1893 was 8. In 1908 it was 10, an increase of 2 cars per man.

Here again we get back to first principles in railroad policy. Here again we find railroad management—management with one eye on traffic and the other on the stock ticker—careless of human life!

When the railroads advance the wages of their employees 10 per cent. they demand that "the public shall bear the burden in increased transportation charges." Meanwhile, by exacting greater services from their employees, they are constantly forcing down the cost per ton of handling the traffic.

In the fifteen years covered by this comparison, the number of tons of freight handled by each trainman on American railroads has increased approximately 45 per cent.

The number of tons of freight carried per train has increased over 90 per cent.

The number of freight cars for each trainman has increased 25 per cent.

In part this condition is the result of railway policy in reducing the size of train crews, and in part the result of refusing to increase the size of train crews in proportion to the demands of the traffic. Such a policy enables the railroads to do business at less cost, and it enables them to pay larger diividends. But it is certain that it makes more exacting, more severe and more hazardous, year by year, the employment of the trainmen.—La Follette's.

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COMMERCIALISM

BURIES THE NOBLE INSTINCTS IN MAN AND APPLAUDS AND ENTHRONES INFAMY.

The evils from which society suffers can be almost wholly traced, either to the degradation of the masses consequent upon their wage-slavery, and the perverted class relations which result from it, or to the subversion of all moral ideals due to the irresistible force of the competitive struggle. The commercial spirit, which measures success by the bank account, besmirches wherever it touches, and sneers at all that rises above its own vain and sordid ideals. Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, once the watchwords of a great hope, are such a mockery under the present conditions as to have become mere targets for a shallow cynicism; regarded only as the mild insanity of deluded enthusiasts. Commercialism, while giving mouth praise to labor, holds the laborer a social pariah. For the laborer to-day is a slave, and labor has become a mark of bondage. Labor may be divine, but slavery, never.

In the often expressed fear lest socialism should reduce all to the level of the workers, there is an unconscious recognition of the evil conditions they have to endure that is in itself justification of their revolt against them. Wage slavery has aspects even worse than chattel slavery. To his owner the chattel slave was valuable property that must be taken care of. But the master of the wage slave can pay a wage on which he slowly starves, can kill with overwork, and yet lose nothing. That man who sees a hundred standing ready to take his place dares not assert himself. The master has him in his power, and knows it; and power is but the provocation of the bully. Many a man not alone endures conditions that are infamous, but has often to set his teeth and submit in silence to insults which, though they cut like a lash, he is powerless to resent. Masters he can change, but a master he must serve; and not until there are none will the slave be truly free.

Nor do the wage-slaves only suffer. Commercialism taints the lives of every one of us.

You of the Press have perhaps more than once been made to realize that the newspaper is to-day a business venture first of all. That for a consideration—or for business considerations, to express it more politely—it may at times be expedient to tread lightly where powerful interests are involved. If, for instance, the proprietor of the paper for which you write owns gas and electric light stock, and the question of municipal lighting is up, which gains utterance—your convictions or his pocket? Or when you color the news to suit the prejudices of those who patronize the paper for which you are preparing it, are you not sacrificing truth to the proprietor's business interests? And if you write indifferently on either side of a public question—protection editorials one year and free trade perhaps the next—according as the opportunity is to your advantage, do you justify it as being a matter of business merely? That it is exactly! You are living on the commercial level, and sell your brains to voice convictions and interests that are not your own. It is prostitution! And by so much as intellect is higher than the body, so much the deeper is your infamy.

You of the Law are in much the same position. Capital, in its efforts to evade the intention of the laws, can command the shrewdest of your wits. For your brains are at the disposal of whoever can pay the price. You are indifferently attorney for the prosecution or attorney for the defense; to enforce the law, or if possible to thwart it, being equally a matter of dollars and cents. Law breaking is condemned, but to defend the lawbreaker by all the arts of legal subterfuge is perfectly admissible. For your profession also is on the commercial basis. To you, too, it is a matter of business, right or wrong not entering into the question. Said Wendell Phillips of one of your proudest names: "This is Choate, who made it safe to murder, and of whose health thieves asked before they began to steal."

And did those of you who are in the very thick of commercialism ever realize that you are busy for the most part trying to steal trade from each other and work the traffic for all it will bear? That, consequently, three-fourths of our work has no social value whatever? Why, if we were remunerated accordingly, most of us would starve. Consider, too, our system of drumming, and advertising self-puffery. It is but beggary glossed over and reduced to a science!

Mental prostitutes, accomplices in rascality, and professional beggars—to such lives does the force of a competitive system reduce us; nor is there any escape so long as the system remains unchanged. Therefore it is, as Marx says, that the standpoint of socialism "can less than any other make the individual responsible for relations whose creature he socially remains, however much he may subjectively raise himself above them."

Scientific socialism is no ready-made suit of clothes that might be put on to-morrow. Nor does it expect to overthrow the competitive system on a Monday and have the millenium in full bloom by Sunday. It is essentially a principle of action, of reorganization. And the manner in which it can be realized must necessarily depend on the conditions existing when public opinion is sufficiently advanced to make its application possible. Socialism is in economics what democracy is in politics; the assertion of the equal right of the people in the management of affairs. It is, therefore, a principle that should appeal to workingmen with peculiar force.

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OR
HISTORY OF A PROLETARIAN FAMILY ACROSS THE AGES

A FASCINATING work, thrilling as fiction, yet embracing a comprehensive history of the oppressing and oppressed classes from the commencement of the present era.

Eugene Sue wrote a romance which seems to have disappeared in a curious fashion, called "Les Mysteres du Peuple." It is the story of a Gallic family through the ages, told in successive episodes, and, so far as we have been able to read it, is fully as interesting as "The Wandering Jew" or "The Mysteries of Paris." The French edition is pretty hard to find, and only parts have been translated into English. We don't know the reason. One medieval episode, telling of the struggle of the communes for freedom is now translated by Mr. Daniel De Leon, under the title, "The Pilgrim's Shell" (New York Labor News Co.). We trust the success of his effort may be such as to lead him to translate the rest of the romance. It will be the first time the feat has been done in English.—N. Y. Sun.

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SEAMEN'S UNION

Issues Statement on Its Strike Against Lake Carriers—A Confession of Union's Helplessness to Improve Conditions.

"Impotent" is the word which sticks out all over a document sent out by the International Seamen's Union and condemns that organization; "impotent," the verdict which must be passed upon the ability of that union to benefit its membership. It is not that the seamen's association hasn't gone the full length of its ability to fight along the lines chosen by itself, but it is because those lines must inevitably prove ineffectual that the association speaks so dolefully in the document in question. The document is a statement of its grievances against the Lake Carriers' Association.

The union has been carrying on a strike against the lake ship-owners for about a year without coming to a satisfactory settlement. Organized along the lines of hocus pocus and bunco economics which the American Federation of Labor teaches, namely, the "brotherhood of capital and labor," the "right of capital to its share," (which means nothing less than the right of exploiters to exploit), "a fair day's wage for a fair day's work," and other such flim flam, the seamen's union, instead of being able to assume the aggressive, finds itself thrown on the defensive. And such, indeed, is the fate of all A. F. of L. maneuvers: Labor, which should with every reason tower as a giant, is tied hand and foot by the Gomperses and the Orlanders, and thus, instead of administering a good thrashing to capital, and dictating the conditions upon which it will go to work, is forced to go around begging, hat in hand, like an outcast spurned of men.

And so the International Seamen's Union has been reduced to whimpering. In the document in question, issued by the Grievance Committee, such whining statements as the following are made: "Do you believe it in the best interests of our country that American seamen should be driven ashore?" "Do you think we ought to submit?" "Do you believe American seamen ever will submit?" "Born free men, taught from boyhood to hold sacred the American concept of human liberty, our very natures would compel us to leave the sea rather than give up the freedom which is ours by right of birth and country." Small wonder that with such phrases on their lips, placed there by the Orlanders, the Furuseths and the MacArthurs, the strikers find themselves "up against it."

There is only one group of our population who can, with success, work the "patriotic racket," and that is the governing powers, the capitalists. It is "patriotism" to fly to THEIR rescue, to fight THEIR wars, and to spill one's blood for THEM to sponge up profits. But when ignorant, misguided, and ignorant because misled Labor picks up the flag to try its mystic powers, it finds the charms don't work; "Americanism" and "Old Glory" then don't conjure up capitalist patriotism in the least.

The conditions existing in the seamen's trade on the lakes are no doubt every bit as intolerable as portrayed by the Union and a thousand times worse, which is all the more reason that they should be improved, and that speedily. But the men should go about their fight in a way that means success. They should overhaul their lines, plant themselves on a different formation, and with a changed formation of ranks march on their ship-owning masters and deliver an ultimatum which means the doom of lake slavery. To do this requires the embracing of the Socialist principle that Labor is the producer of all wealth and therefore entitled to all its product; that to secure this, Labor must organize politically and industrially for such purpose. Cut out the dependence on mysticism and economic twaddle and fall in with the Socialist Labor Party. As long, however, as the lake seamen follow in the footsteps of the American Federation of Labor, they will find that their efforts to gain benefits will prove futile and they remain the industrial slaves which the Lake Carriers' Association takes them for.

The following is in part the statement of the grievances of the International Seamen's Union and its defense:

"For several years previous to 1908 the Unions had entered into agreements with the Lake Carriers' Association. Such differences as existed were each year discussed and settled for the season usually by compromise on the part of the Unions.

"In the Spring of 1908 we wrote to the Lake Carriers requesting that a date be set for the usual conference, having in view a renewal of the old agreement which had then expired. No demand was made for any change in either wages or working conditions. Much to our surprise the Lake Carriers entirely ignored our communication.

"Shortly after the opening of navigation in 1908 the Lake Carriers, through their captains and shipping masters, demanded that all seamen employed on their vessels must quit the Unions. Seamen who refused to do this were discharged. It went from bad to worse until many of the men were even required to take an oath renouncing all allegiance to the Unions, and to agree, under oath, to 'remain non-union men as long as they sailed for a living.'

"This continued throughout the season of 1908, both on board the ships and in the shipping offices. But by dodging each blow and exercising unlimited patience we pulled through the year, and while avoiding a strike we actually succeeded in also partially avoiding the lockout, and at the same time we kept our Unions in good shape.

"In the Spring of 1909 the Lake Carriers' Association again declined to meet representatives of the Unions, and inaugurated an absolutely merciless industrial passport system. On May 1st, 1909, we went on strike against this passport scheme, the main features of which are. A certificate of membership in a so-called 'welfare plan' controlled by the Lake Carriers—Payment of fees by seamen to the Lake Carriers—Registration of name, age, personal appearance, etc.—An industrial passport, called a 'Discharge Book,' the holder of which is to be thus identified—A system of character marks, such as the master of the vessel may choose to give, upon which future employment or non-employment is to depend—Authority in the hands of any ship's officer to arbitrarily deprive seamen of the passport, regardless of the number of 'good' character marks the sailor may have previously obtained—A rule requiring that seamen must, when employed, deposit the passport with the ship's captain in order that it may be readily and easily revoked—A system of so-called 'assembly rooms' on shore where seamen must congregate when unemployed, preference in employment being given to those who frequent these places to the greatest extent, a watch being kept on their attendance while unemployed—An agreement by each individual seaman, in writing, to submit to all rules and regulations of the 'assembly rooms' when ashore, and to take no part in any organized effort to better conditions, or to prevent deterioration thereof, when employed on board ship—Obedience to such other rules and regulations as the Lake Carriers' Association may see fit to inaugurate from time to time.

"This is the 'welfare plan' of the Lake Carriers' Association against which we are now on strike. It is a deliberate attempt to deprive us of our liberty and to establish industrial serfdom.

"Do you believe American seamen will ever submit to it? Do you think we ought to submit? Do you believe that anybody of American seamen can continue to exist under it? Born free men, taught from boyhood to hold sacred the American concept of human liberty, our very natures would compel us to leave the sea, rather than to give up the freedom which is ours by right of birth and country.

"It is true that the Lake Carriers, as a part of their 'plan,' also offer to bury a seaman—if he has a passport—provided he dies while on board one of their ships. That is the excuse they give for having named their scheme a 'welfare plan.' Well, we do not object to their providing a funeral for us after death—though we see no need of a Lake Carriers' Association passport to secure entry to a grave. But we do emphatically protest against their attempt to bury our hopes and ambitions for reasonably decent lives while our souls still cling to our bodies.

"This is not entirely a question of unionism or non-unionism. It is rather a question of our Americanism, a denial of our birthright, that which is born in us and which we cannot surrender even if we would.

"So we shall continue the strike. We hope to win a victory, to maintain our liberty."

E. S.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	74,191
In 1904	34,172
In 1908	14,237

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SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1910.

May it please your serene highnesses, your majesties, lordships and law-wardships, the proper epic of this world is not "Arms and the Man"; how much less, "Shirt-frills and the Man"; no, it is now "Tools and the Man"; that, henceforth to all time, is now our epic; and you first of all others, I think, were wise to take note of that!

—THOMAS CARLYLE.

AN OPEN LETTER.

To the South Bronx Property Owners' Ass'n.,

Gentlemen:—

We find ourselves at great trouble to understand your letter requesting the assistance of this paper to cause the Legislature at Albany to prevent the installing of water meters in dwellings.

We know what water meters are: they are in the nature of gas meters, contrivances to record the volume of water consumed in a tenement. We also know what the effect would be of the installation of such meters in dwellings: it would cost a good deal to the landlords; whether that would amount, as you claim, to "a burden of two hundred million dollars or more to the real estate interests" we are not prepared to say, but matters not. So far there is no difficulty in understanding you. The difficulty begins when we reach those passages in which you pronounce the water meter scheme a move that will "fall on the shoulders of the poorest residents of the city," and in which you appeal to us for aid in averting the water meter calamity in behalf "of the suffering poor." The English of these two passages is faultless and clear; there seems to be no misleading typographical errors; and yet the passages look to us much like a "pi."

If it is true that the water meter plan will have for its effect "to saddle the real estate interests of the City of New York with an additional burden of two hundred million dollars or more," then, to the ordinary mind, the claim that the plan will fall "on the shoulders of the poorest residents of the city" sounds much like a contradiction in logic. If, on the other hand, the theory is that the hundred million dollars or more, which will be collected from the real estate interests, will be shifted by those interests to the shoulders of their tenants, then the appeal in behalf of "the suffering poor" sounds much like a contradiction in sociology: the landlord class, whatever its virtues, is not noted for the virtue of solicitude for the shoulders of its tenants.

These passages may all be clear to you; to our unsophisticated mind they are unintelligible.

The Daily People, being the mouthpiece of the Socialist Labor Party, advocates the abolition of the conditions that breed the poor. For all this, all practical moves that, in the meantime, would relieve distress and render the poor all the fitter to overthrow the system which causes their poverty, are entitled to and have this paper's warm support. The S. L. P. does not reject a half loaf when it cannot get the whole loaf. But the Party has set its face like flint against any proposition that looks like a half loaf but is only a stone—of no use to the working poor.

The backs of the poor have been a broad promenade ground for all manner of property-holding schemers to march and reach their private goals. Unless and until you can reconcile the statements, that the water meter plan will cost the real estate interests a couple of hundred million dollars, with that other statement, that the burden of the plan will fall upon the shoulders of the poorest residents of the city, unless you do that and until you do we have no choice other than to conclude that your Association is attempting to step upon that proletarian-backs promenade, and upon your appeal for our aid as an invitation that we join the procession—an invitation that we decline.

EDITOR DAILY PEOPLE.

THE PULLMAN CAR DECISION.

Undoubtedly, as Washington despatches have it, the order just issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission with regard to the Pullman Company "is one of the most important decisions ever handed down" by the Commission. We know of none as important.

Answering the Pullman Company's attorneys, who argued that present returns upon the Company's investments are no more than reasonable, the Commission shows:

First, that the total dividends paid in the ten years 1898-1908 were $59,664,224;

Second, that while this amount appears as about 8 per cent. on the capital stock, the amount does not represent by any means the annual net profits of the Company;

Third, that, over and above the said amount, there was an amount, only little short of the annual dividends, carried annually to surplus, and at frequent intervals distributed among the stockholders in the shape of a "special cash dividend," and totaling over $51,000,000; accordingly that the dividends amounted in fact to nearly double the amount stated by the Company, or to over $110,000,000;

Finally, that no additional capital was actually put into the Company during this period, and that the apparent increase of $44,000,000 represents actually the capitalization of surplus earnings.

Such, in short, are the findings of the Commission. Upon these findings even Chairman Knapp, who dissents from the majority of his colleagues on the Commission, is of the opinion that "broad grounds of social welfare" demand that something should be done. The something done at the behest of "broad grounds of social welfare" is—what?—an order to lower the Pullman rates 25 per cent. to the Pullman travelers.

That certainly "is one of the most important decisions ever handed down," if not the most important one, at this season.

Some carping critic and chronic fault-finder might remark that, considering the miserable wages of the Pullman employes, the rise in the prices of necessaries, and the fabulous wealth that these employes (as shown by the findings of the Commissioners themselves) yield to the Company, what the "broad grounds of social welfare" dictate is that the Company's revenues be clipped by ordering it to raise its wages at least 25 per cent., whereas, to order the Company to lower its rates 25 per cent. to an element that does not extensively consume Pullman accommodations, is to clip at the wrong end. The carping critic and chronic fault-finder might ask: In what way does such a decision deserve to be hailed as "important"? Is it not outrageous to "reform" in behalf of the well-to-do, and disregard the needy? and he might accentuate his question with profanity.

Light-headed, hot-headed critic, why, that's just what renders the decision singularly important.

OPPORTUNITY, ETC., WASTED.

Representative Charles G. Edwards of Georgia delivered in Congress an impassioned address against a bill introduced by Representative William S. Bennet of New York, the purport of which is to reduce the representation from the Southern States from 82 to 52 members on the ground of the practical disfranchisement of the Negro in the States south of Mason and Dixon's line.

It must have taken Rep. Edwards fully an hour to say all that he did. He spoke of the "purity of the race"; of the "generosity of the Southern States towards their colored wards"; of the progress "unparalleled in history" made by the South in all the things that are requisite to "fulfill her own destiny and to better all mankind." He passed in review the history of the Carpet-bagger days when "Negro heels were planted on white necks"; when the debts of all the States subject to the Carpet-baggers was fiercely increased; when elections were held in the private chambers of the Carpet-bagger and his Negro tool. He admonished the North not to play with dynamite and enrage the noblest race that ever walked on earth; and he withered, or tried to wither Rep. Bennet.

It was time, labor, breath, eloquence, statistics—and opportunity wasted. None such arguments have the slightest effect. Indeed, from the report in the Congressional Record it would seem that the Republican members of the House who listened to the oration were few. Otherwise would it have been if the Hon. Edwards had said:

"You Northern employers of Labor who wish to deprive us, Southern ditto of representation in Congress need not overstrain yourselves in that direction. We will ourselves give you a helping hand to cut down our representation so as to exclude the working class in our borders. Yes we will help you, provided you are fair. Drop your false pretence of representing the people of your several districts. Come from cover and admit that you represent only the capitalist class. So soon as you make the admission we will recognize you as being as candid and honorable as ourselves. We make no bones of it; and we recognize that, seeing the workers are excluded, we should not have the number of representatives that we now have. But if you admit that you are no better than we, then you should also cut down the number of your representatives. Both of us, representing the same thing, should not pad our constituencies with cattle whom we do not represent.

"So far, you have kept up appearances pretty well. But you are getting to the end of your tether. What are your 'primary' laws and such other devices but schemes to bar your workers from voting, or to compel them to vote as you please, which is the same thing? We of the South resort to other methods; the end is the same—the disfranchisement of the workers. So, then, drop your mask. Be as straight forward as we are. Say what you mean, mean what you say, and we shall speedily come to an understanding—the proportional reduction of the number of our members in the House."

Had Rep. Edwards held language to this effect the harpoon would have entered the rhinoceros skin of the Northern Democratic and Republican Representatives, alike, and, instead of yawning while he spoke, or adjourning to the cloakroom where they swapped anecdotes, the Republicans would have listened in rapt attention—and squirmed—and dropped the Bennet bill.

"RECOUPING."

It was Goldwin Smith, the "philosopher, economist and publicist," who—from his comfortable retreat near Toronto where he enjoys a cushioned seat on the top of the social wagon to which the toiling masses are harnessed and at which they toilsomely tug—complacently dismissed the theory of higher prices hurting anybody. Goldwin Smith argued that those who have to pay higher prices for what they buy can recoup themselves by demanding higher prices for what they sell.

Labor has taken the tip. A veritable epidemic of strikes has broken out. Railroad workers, paper makers, tin and sheet iron workers, miners both of coal and minerals, house builders, and so on, here and there, and everywhere are grumbling, and the grumbling grows to a rumbling, and the rumbling materializes into strikes, or threats of strikes, of various dimensions. At bottom of it all is the rise in prices. With the risen prices the purchasing power of the wages received has proportionally decreased. Is Labor trying to "recoup" itself? Probably that is what Labor means. The fact is that Labor has started to and is driven into gathering some fresh and useful experience. That experience is that a chasm divides the property-holding class from the propertyless or working class; and that the chasm is of such a nature as to render the "recouping" process, efficient enough among property-holders, so inefficient in the hands of the proletariat, as to open its eyes to the formerly unseen chasm, and thereby compel it to resort to something more drastic than "recouping."

When the landlord raises his price to his tenant the baker, the baker can immediately recoup himself by raising his price to the shoe manufacturer; whereupon the shoe manufacturer can forthwith recoup himself by raising his price to his retail customer; whereupon the retail shoe storekeeper can instanter recoup himself by raising his price to his grocery patron, and so all along the line; and all these "recoupers" can "recoup" themselves from the workingman. So soon as the "recouping" process strikes that "merchant," the workingman or seller of the merchandise labor-power, the process virtually comes to an end. From that point on "recouping" is transformed. It becomes "revolution," or the orchestral overture to "revolution." The reason is that the instant the "recouping" process strikes the working class the line is drawn, and deep yawns to sight the chasm that divides the working class from the Capitalist Class—the latter standing on the "recouping" bank the other on the opposite bank, the bank of "revolution."

"Recouping" is an individual act; no organization is needed for the move; it awakens no class sense. Where something like "recouping" becomes imperative, and, soon as started, imperatively demands organization, then the process forthwith awakens the class sense. This is the case with the "recouping" by Labor.

It matters not how blindly groping Labor may move at first, or how strenuously the labor lieutenants of the Capitalist class may seek to keep the blinkers on Labor in order to prevent it from perceiving the class-chasm—all that matters not, at least not for permanent results. The identical latent law that forces the Capitalist Class to reveal the class-chasm, also forces the sight of the chasm, and, with the sight, its meaning upon the Working Class. Goldwin Smith suggested more than the "philosopher, economist and publicist" bargained for.

A RAID ON THE "SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN."

The "Scientific American" for the 9th of March, in an article on "Our Marvelous Automobile Industry," bursts into this rapturous strain:

"An industry which has grown with such startling rapidity, and which is valued at so princely a sum, naturally gives employment to an army of mechanics, all of them skilled men handsomely paid. Thus we find that the mere wages paid for mechanics in 1910 will amount to about $100,000,000."

Smiles burst out all over the automobile worker's face as he reads this passage. Visions of juicy porterhouse steaks, flanked by potatoes nicely browned in their own gravy, and calling to his buxom wife and bouncing youngsters "Come eat me!" dance before his eyes. Good warm clothing, a fitting habitation, all the good things civilization offers to the fortunate are to be his and his cherished family's. Is he not "handsomely" paid? Does he not share in that "about $100,000,000" dealt out in wages? Not only that. Not only the automobile worker is so affected by the passage. Every other workman—the trolley-car conductor, the excavator, the shoe-store clerk—inferentially and by sympathy shares in that "handsome" pay. Their bosoms swell with surprise and joy. They no longer feel so pinched and hungry as they just now did. Things can't be as bad as that sore-head Socialist press would make them out, after all.

They read on. Precisely five and one-eighth inches further down the same column, they come across this other statement:

"The actual number of employes in the industry is 125,000 in motor-car factories, with employes in parts factories reaching not less than 40,000, a total of 165,000."

The smilers become nervous. The smiles freeze and fade out. Hats are pushed back from anxious foreheads. Grabs are made for chalk, for pencil, for paper, for anything to figure on and with. The number $100,000,000, the amount of wages paid out in the industry, is set down. Beside it, and to the left, the figure 165,000, the number of employes among whom that $100,000,000 is divided. The customary lines for division are drawn, the operation performed, and the quotient is—$606.06!

Gone are the porterhouse steaks and the browned potatoes. Gone are the health-giving clothing, the smiling abodes, the advantages of civilization. Emptiness, vast and desolate, settles down into their place. Then the trolley-car conductor, shoe-store clerk, excavator—all the other workers—with the automobile worker in the lead, pull their hats down over their ears, double up their fists, and execute a marathon raid on the "Scientific American" office.

LAW'S DELAY.

Resume of Anti-Trust Suits Shows Months Consumed in Trials.

Washington, April 11:—Records of the Supreme Court of the United States in suits arising under the Sherman anti-Trust law show that these cases nearly always have taken months for decision, according to a review of the principal cases issued to-day. It was under this law that the dissolution suit against various tobacco companies was presented to the court after argument January 3, and the Standard Oil dissolution suit on March 14. Here are some of the principal cases under the Sherman Anti-Trust law decided by the court and the time it took to give a decision:

Knight case against Sugar Trust, two months seventeen days; Trans-Missouri Freight Association, three months fourteen days; United States Joint Traffic Association, four months; Addystone Pipe case, about three months; Northern Securities case, three months; Swift & Co., twenty-four days; Danbury hat case, one month twenty-eight days; Continental Wallpaper Company, about five months.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

IS TOM WATSON "FIGARO'S" UNCONSCIOUS HUMORIST?

In "Watson's Jeffersonian Magazine" for this month Tom Watson asserts, amid caps and italics enough to superinduce delirium tremens, that "unwittingly" Marx himself "bears witness to the correctness of my [Mr. W.'s] position, which is that there is nothing wrong in Capitalism itself." In proof of this Mr. Watson cites the following footnote in Marx's "Capital," where Marx quotes from Colonel R. Torrens's "An Essay on the Production of Wealth," as follows:

"In the first stone which he (the savage) flings at the wild animal he pursues, in the stick that he seizes to strike down the fruit which hangs above his reach, we see the appropriation of one article for the purpose of aiding in the acquisition of another, and thus discover the original of capital."

Indeed the Torrensian philosophy squares exactly with the Watsonian. It presents the genesis of Capital as an innocent, justifiable, and harmful-to-no-man process. If its inception is innocent, justifiable, and harmful-to-no-man, why apply to it the hard words that Socialists do? Whereupon Mr. Watson, in a state of mind of which some idea is given by the italics and caps literally reproduced in the following passages, hurrays as follows:

"These would-be philosophers [the Socialists] trace their dearest foe, capitalism, back to *the stone with which the savage kills a wild animal*, and thus obtains food for himself and kindred; *to the stick which brings wasting fruit to appease human hunger*—AND THEN HAVE THE ASTOUNDING OBTUSENESS TO ARGUE THAT CAPITALISM IS WRONG, IN ITSELF! Mercy on us! how one sided these doctrinaires become when laboring to find facts to support absurd theories!"

But, Mr. Watson, not so fast—

"Well, who *besides the hog* was damaged by the use of the rock? Wasn't it a good thing for the tribe to have its food supply increased, in that manner? Was the tribe injured when *'the original capitalist,* whose stick brought down grapes, or nuts, added those luxuries to the provisions of the tribe? How was 'Society' damaged when those *original capitalists* learned how to make spears, javelins, stone hatchets, fish-hooks, bows and arrows, *and thus enormously increased their capacity for securing the flesh and hides of wild beasts, for food and clothing and tents?*"

But, Mr. Watson, we beg your pardon, the original capitalist—

"Then when those *original capitalists* learned how to use boats and nets, traps and pitfalls, to capture a vastly larger number of fish and wild animals, with very much more ease, *capitalism was going at tremendous speed*—in comparison with Colonel Torrens' rock and stick throwers. But can you see wherein this capitalism was doing any harm to 'Society'? When axes were used to fell trees, and implements employed to produce grain and vegetables, the capitalists had made another tremendous leap *onward*, AND UPWARD. And so on at each successive step, *in the natural process of evolution.*"

But, one minute, Mr. Watson, Marx—

"*Here was capitalism in full blast* according to Marx and his wonderful Colonel Torrens."

Now, Mr. Watson, take a reef in your tongue! You have been going at the rate of 40 knots a minute. Stop, if for breath only. Man, you're off—from bottom up. Marx never said any such nonsense as you put into his mouth. The "original capitalist" is not Colonel Torrens's stone and stick throwing savage; nor is "original capital" the Colonel's stick and stone.

Capitalism, like all other institutions of man, is no bolt from a clear sky. Almost imperceptible are the gradations that lead to it. This notwithstanding, deep and wide is the chasm that separates the savage, whose property rests upon his own labor, and the person, or concern, whose property rests in the labor of others; deep and wide is the chasm, between the stick and stone of the savage, and the plant of the capitalist; deep and wide is the chasm that separates the social conditions under which the savage and those under which the capitalist produces.

The stick and stone of the savage are no more "original capital" than the sand of the Ocean is "original fortress."—Marx emphasizes the point that, so long as the means of production and subsistence remain the property of the producer, they are not capital.

The savage who takes a stick or a stone to bring down a wild animal is no more "original capitalist" than the tightrope dancer is "original aeroplanist"; nor is the system of the savage in question "original capitalism" any more than a lighted tallow candle is "original electric light."—Marx emphasizes that the capitalist and capitalism are impossibilities before the creation of something else, without which neither could breathe. What is that something else? That something else, essential to capitalism, is a mass of expropriated humanity, originally expropriated by being driven with fire and sword from their small landed tenures, and thereafter compelled to sell themselves in wage slavery—the proletariat. Upon this fact history is full. It is a fact which misleads the Single Taxer into the error of concluding that, because original expropriation from the land was the remote cause of proletarian misery, therefore, to-day, after capital has got into the saddle, land is all-sufficient for independence.

Even such utensils as hatchets, guns, saws, etc., articles far in advance of the savage's stone and stick, and used to-day for the acquisition of useful things, are not "capital," nor is their wielder a "capitalist" if he uses them himself for his own subsistence.

One is a capitalist only if the means of production owned by him are operated, not by himself, exclusively, but by employes; and he can fill that capitalist role only when there are, ready to his hand, human beings who need just such means of production as he owns, and who are stripped of the opportunity to acquire them. The system under which this combination of circumstances is found is "capitalism." Hence, in the words with which Marx summarizes his treatise on the genesis of capitalism, "If money, according to Augier, 'comes into the world with a congenital blood-stain on one cheek,' capital comes dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt."

This is what Marx says. Marx may be an ass, Mr. Watson, and false his history, and yours correct; in which event an expectant humanity will be happy to learn by sitting at your feet, under your drippings. But you will have to quote him correctly. You may not put into Marx's mouth your own views as anticipated by Colonel Torrens. You may do this all the less seeing that Marx did not leave to inference the opinion he entertained of people who see in the savage, using stones and sticks, or even in the modern self-employer, the "original capitalist," and, in the implements of these, "original capital." Innumerable and pointed are the shafts of Marx's ridicule at the Colonel-Torrenses, at this very Colonel Torrens in particular.

At this point Mr. Watson may be seen rising majestically, and, triumphantly reading further down from his own article, say:

"Marx is quite rapturous in quoting R. Torrens to that effect. He calls Torrens' discovery of the original capitalist, *'a wonderful feat of logical acumen.'"*

We are disarmed. Our indignation at what we took to be a recurrence of Mr. Watson's malady of misquoting vanishes. We now can only roar. Mr. Watson must be the long sought-for Paris "Figaro's" unconscious humorist.

The Paris "Figaro" tells this story: A book on America having appeared in which the author narrated as something new, some things about America that everybody knew before, and some other things that were simply absurd, the "Figaro" made an allusion to the author to the effect that Mr. So-and-So "had discovered America." A day or two later the paper received a letter from an unknown correspondent informing the "Figaro" soberly and politely that it had made a mistake: Mr. So-and-So was not the discoverer of America: the discoverer of America was Cristofero Colombo: see such and such authorities upon the subject.

Yes, Marx does call Colonel Torrens a "discoverer." He introduces his footnote quotation from the Colonel with these words: "By a wonderful feat of logical acumen Colonel Torrens has discovered, in this stone of the savage the original of capital." Mr. Watson, not having read the text, and his eyes accidentally alighting upon the footnote, he, like "Figaro's" wooden-headed correspondent, missed the sarcasm, took it literally—and immortalized himself as an unconscious humorist.

CONGO REFORMS PROMISED

Brussels, April 11.—King Albert has approved the plans of the ministry of the colonies for reforms in the Belgian Congo and they will become effective on July 1, when a large area will be opened to free commerce. The reforms include a reduction in taxes, which will be collected in money and not paid by labor; the substitution of native for white officials; the restriction of obligatory labor on the part of adults to the works dedicated to the improvement of their own conditions; and the suppression of polygamy.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

UNCLE SAM—The general discontent—

BROTHER JONATHAN — Bother the general discontent. I call it the general stupidity.

U. S.—You may be right; if people knew what this capitalism means from which they expect a living while it will assuredly deals death to them—

B. J.—That is not what I mean. That is all stuff about capitalism dealing death. What I mean is if people were not so stupid they would know in what way they could improve their condition and turn capitalism to good use.

U. S.—And what is your way.

B. J.—I shall state my way if you have time to listen to me, because I shall want to state systematically.

U. S.—"Systematically" is good; let her rip!

B. J.—We are two here, you and I.

U. S.—That's profoundly true.

B. J.—If there is only one hat produced by us, we could not each have a hat, could we?

U. S.—That's another chunk of unquestionable wisdom.

B. J.—For each to have a hat we must produce two hats, not so?

U. S.—We could not each have one if there were no two hats.

B. J.—Now, that is the A. B. C. of the whole question.

U. S.—That seems very simple, but it may be too simple; it is certainly too simple for me.

B. J.—It follows from this A. B. C. that all that is needed is to increase production. If we can produce four hats we shall each have two; if we can produce a hundred hats we shall each have fifty—

U. S.—Not so fast.

B. J.—If our people could only increase the amount of the wealth produced, all would be hunky. He who has a million would have two millions; he who has $5,000 would have $10,000; he who has $1,000 would have $2,000; and the poor workingman, who to-day has nothing, would have—

U. S.—Twice as much; twice nothing is nothing.

B. J.—How you talk.

U. S.—Surely not like a booby as you do. Your "system of reasoning amounts to this: The more the workers produce the more they will get"—

B. J.—That's just it.

U. S.—And that is just nonsense. The fact and the reason is just the reverse: "The more the workers produce the less they get."

B. J.—Absurd!

U. S.—What enables the workingman to produce more?

B. J.—The machine.

U. S.—Say that in a room 100 men are at work without the machine and they earn $2 apiece—

B. J.—Very well.

U. S.—A machine is brought in by which 50 men can produce more than 100 before. Do not these 50 men now turn out more goods?

B. J.—They do.

U. S.—Are the other 50 kept at work?

B. J.—No, they are displaced.

U. S.—As far as these 50 are concerned, to begin with, your "system" falls through; more is produced, and they get nothing, being thrown out of work!

B. J.—Hem.

U. S.—Now, let us return to the 50 who are kept at work.

B. J.—Well, they get something.

U. S.—That is not enough for your "system;" they must not only get "something," they must get more than they did before because they are producing more. Now, do they get more?

B. J.—W-e-l-l—

U. S.—No, they don't.

B. J.—But they don't get any less.

U. S.—At first not; later on, yes. The men who are thrown out of work won't starve; they'd rather work for $1 than do nothing and die. So they apply for work at $1. And the result is that, whereas before 100 men were getting $2 a piece, now that the labor in that shop turns out with the machine more than before 50 of the men get nothing and go tramping, and the other 50 get one-half of what they got before. That is the cause of the discontent.

B. J. remains dumb.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

S. L. P. OF SOUTH AFRICA.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The following letter was received by the undersigned and is hereby submitted for publication.

Paul Augustine,
National Secretary.

New York, April 8, 1910.

(Enclosure)

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA.

P. O. Box 2840.

Johannesburg, March 13, 1910.

To General Secretary, Socialist Labor Party, U. S. A., New York, N. Y.

Dear Comrade:—I have been instructed by my Party to inform the comrades of America of the organization of the Socialist Labor Part, of South Africa whose object is:

The education and organization of the working class of South Africa, politically and industrially, for the abolishing of Capitalism and the establishment of an Industrial Democracy.

Will you kindly have this announced in the Daily and Weekly People and all other Party organs

I have also been instructed to ask you to send us the Constitution and Rules of the S. L. P. of America, and if possible, also the Constitution and Rules of the genuine I. W. W. of America.

Yours fraternally,
I. Israelstam,
Secretary S. L. P. of S. A.

QUESTION TO A. F. OF L. ORGANIZER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The business interests, looking for suckers, make the boast that Shawnee, Okla., has 22,000 population. A more correct estimate places the population about 15,000 At least 60 per cent of this population belongs to the working class.

Now, Shawnee has a strike-breaking organization, otherwise called the A. F. of L. A public meeting was held under the auspices of the Shawnee Trades Assembly to boost the Label League. The speaker was W. H. Wisener, national organizer of the U. G. W. of A. By actual count there was an audience of twenty-two. Mr. Wisener talked for more than an hour. Comment on what he said is unnecessary, except that the rattling of the emptiness of his head could be heard as far as his voice reached. At the close of Mr. Wisener's remarks, the writer asked him: "Isn't it a fact that the American Federation of Labor teaches that the interests of the employers and employes are identical?" The question threw Mr. Wisener off his balance. After a minute or so he recovered and answered, "No, it does not." He then rambled lamely through a lot of words for about five minutes. At the conclusion I asked him if he was willing to stand by his denial as to the A. F. of L. teaching identity of interests between employers and employes. "Yes," he said, "he would stand by that answer." After a few more rambling remarks he asked me what organization I belonged to, and when told the I. W. W., he made what he thought were "cutting remarks."

After adjournment a number of strike-breakers, in the shape of craft delegates, and the writer entered into a wordy contest, and for their pains they had a few facts rubbed under their noses and an invitation to attend open-air meetings, which the writer shall hold while he is in Shawnee.

Now let me ask Mr. W. H. Wisener, advertised as national organizer of the U. G. W. of A.: "Mr. Wisener, did you intentionally misrepresent the A. F. of L. when you said the A. F. of L. does not teach the identity of interests between employers and employes, or are you really ignorant of the capitalist principles of that strike-breaking organization?" Chas. Rogers.

Shawnee, Okla., April 5.

A MILWAUKEE S. D. POSTER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Readers are requested to read the following, and determine on what platform Mr. M. Mikkelson, Social Democratic candidate for alderman of the 5th Ward of this city, was running:

M. MIKKELSON
For Alderman—5th Ward
(Here Mikkelson's picture)
What I stand for
Track Elevation in the Fifth Ward.
Purchase of a Park for the Fifth Ward by a referendum of the 5th Ward voters as to location.
A regular office at the Alderman's expense, for the transaction of business of the ward on business principles, where citizens can transact business with their alderman.

The above sounds like the old party platforms, but alongside of Mikkelson's picture is printed "Social Democratic candidate."

The above is a poster the S. D. P. had displayed in the 5th Ward. Can anyone see how the S. D. P. can apply the "philosophy of International Socialism" to "local issues" of this kind?

Berger, upon his return from Europe, said there were few "geniuses" in the European Labor Movement. It's up to him now to demonstrate how much of a "genius" he is. The S. D. P. will have to satisfy the middle class and conservative element of his party; they will also have to satisfy the honest revolutionary element, but one element only they can satisfy. From this it may be readily seen that it will be but a short time, and they will lose the support of one of these elements. The man that can satisfy them both, certainly must be credited as a great "genius."

Alb. Schnabel.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 12.

ON UNITY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Occasionally the question of unity between the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist party comes up for discussion. So far nothing of practical import has developed to bring about unity. In my opinion it is only wasting time on the part of the Socialist Labor Party to look to that end. There is no doubt in my mind that many members of the Socialist party want unity, but as long as their national executive committee ignores everything in that line we had better cut out expecting it. Section Pittsfield, at its last regular meeting, endorsed fully the standpoint of Section Attleboro in this matter.

Herman Koepke,
Organizer Section Pittsfield.

Pittsfield, Mass., April 12.

NORTH DAKOTA MUST BE AN "EASTERN RURAL STATE" ACCORDING TO THE S. P. NEW YORK YIDDISH "VORWAERTS."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Yesterday the municipal elections of this town were held, and the Socialist party was mixed up in them. I am sending you a nearly complete record of the vote which that opportunist body succeeded in polling, which is taken from the Devil's Lake "Journal's" issue of April 6th.

The S. P. vote for mayor was so plentiful that it was not given in the paper; but a member of the party estimated it for me as about 50, out of a total of 585.

Taken from the paper:

Second Ward:—Total cast for the candidates for aldermen was 173 votes. S. P. nominee received eleven.

Third Ward:—Total cast for candidates for aldermen was 181 votes. S. P. nominee received 23 votes.

Fourth Ward:—Total cast for candidates for aldermen was 133 votes. S. P. nominee received eight votes.

In the evening I happened to meet an S. P. acquaintance up town. Referring to the paltry vote of his party, I suggested the hopelessness of their pure and simple political activity. Immediately he took issue with me, and let forth a very remarkable explanation of his party's small poll. Some time soon I shall have him repeat that explanation and send it in for publication in your "Sparklets" column, but to-night I do not feel humorously inclined.

G. J. Sherwood.

Devil's Lake, N. Dak., April 5.

ST. LOUIS S. P. FUSIONIST BREWERY BOOSTER NOW.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Owen Miller, the Socialist party candidate for the Board of Freeholders at last year's municipal election, and who simultaneously ran on the Democratic and Republican tickets, has now turned booster for the brewery interests. He has organized the Anti-Prohibition League of Trades Unions, whose purpose is to fight prohibition in Missouri. The St. Louis Post Despatch of April 11, reports the following of Miller:

"Miller declares the Anti-Prohibition League is being organized throughout the entire country. He is confident with the aid of the unions the liquor interest and their friends will be able to defeat the prohibition amendment to be voted on next November."

Miller is also quoted in the same paper as saying. "We are doing a great service for the breweries and hotels and of course expect to make a demand upon them. We are preserving the life of the breweries and hotels."

Anti S. P.

St. Louis, Mo., April 12.

OUTDOOR CAMPAIGN IN PHILA.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed find $2 for subscriptions. Section Philadelphia started its open air campaign last night on City Hall Plaza, North Side. Erwin acted as chairman and in a short speech outlined the policy of the S. L. P. Anton followed with a characteristic speech. In opening he declared that Mayor Reyburn was the best mayor that the city had ever had, which rather surprised the audience, but he proceeded to prove it.

After outlining the class struggle, Anton showed that the people of Philadelphia had endorsed capitalism by voting for Reyburn and his administration, and that Reyburn had merely done his duty by protecting the interests of the trolley company against the demands of the working class.

Higgins followed Anton and delivered a telling speech in which he flayed the American Federation of Labor unmercifully for their conduct in the trolley strike and for other muddleheaded and treacherous work. One or two objectors were heard, but these were soon put to silence by the facts.

The keynote of Higgins' speech was the class struggle, which he dwelt on at length. In concluding he urged his audience to organize industrially into the I. W. W. with headquarters at Hamtramck, Michigan, and politically in the Socialist Labor Party, the only working class political party in America.

In spite of the cold weather, a large and attentive audience stood out the meeting. Forty-one five cent pamphlets were sold and a large number of leaflets were distributed. This is pretty good for a beginning. Don't you think?

The work of distributing the literature provided by the "On to Philadelphia Fund" was pushed vigorously during the heat of the strike as will be shown in the following incidents. Comrade Tomlinson, while distributing literature in a crowd, was clubbed over the head and locked up for the night, but discharged in the morning. Comrade Erwin was arrested at a strikers' meeting, and after being locked up all night was fined $6.50. Comrade Savelsky was arrested at the Debs meeting and after four days in Moyamensing jail was released on $800 bail. The charge against Savelsky was "conspiracy." His case came up before the Grand Jury last week and the charge was changed to "inciting to riot." He will be tried some time next month. A lawyer has been engaged to defend him. These three cases should serve to show the contributors to the fund that at least some of the members were on the job and disregarding the risks.

At a Section meeting yesterday the "Leaflet Distribution Fund" was discussed and approved. The Section pledged itself to contribute regularly. Let this be a hint to those members who are not in the habit of attending the business meetings. R. McL.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 11.

PIERSON, TIRELESS HAMMERER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—With the co-operation of Los Angeles S. L. P. men we succeeded in securing two subs for the Volksfreund and Arbeiter Zeitung, five for Der Arbeiter, and twenty-four for the Weekly People.

Gillhaus and I addressed open-air meetings in this city and Pasadena, and from the interest manifested, including sales of literature, the meetings were a success.

At Pasadena we had the co-operation of Biell, and between us we sold twenty-two pamphlets and secured two subs to the Weekly People. In Pasadena a great many of our rich "captains of industry," who haven't brains enough to captain an Erie canal boat, idle away their time during the winter months in their beautiful Pasadena palaces, the grandeur of which no pen can describe. Millions of dollars have been spent in erecting them, and as every intelligent workingman knows, every dollar of this money has been wrung from the sweat and blood of their wage slaves, including the wealth they squander in riotious living.

Section Los Angeles held its entertainment and dance last night (Saturday) in their spacious hall at headquarters. Schade and Levoy as auctioneers succeeded in realizing a good sum from the presents they sold, donated by members of the Section. About $35 was realized, and this amount will be turned over to the State Committee for agitation and propaganda.

Will leave Monday for San Francisco, where I shall put in a week's work hammering away for more subs and hope for success.

Chas. Pierson.

Los Angeles, Calif., April 3.

NEBRASKA S. P. LECTURE ON SOCIALISM.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—"The Honorable Joseph Perkins will speak this afternoon on Socialism." So read the board in front of the A. O. U. W. Hall (American Order United Woodmen), to-day. The writer ventured in to hear what the "Honorable" Joe would have to say on the great class struggle. After listening in vain for some kernels of sense to drop, I came away fully enlightened as to why the question is going the rounds: What is the Matter with the Socialist Party?

The chairman in opening the meeting took no chances of an early departure of the audience; he announced the collection as number one of the afternoon's program. He next urged the necessity of pushing the subscriptions for the "Enterpriser," the privately-owned local S. P. sheet, which he said business men recognized as a valuable advertising medium. He said that the "Enterpriser" would enlighten the population of the almost entire agricultural state what the S. P. stood for in Nebraska. "Neither the 'Appeal,' powerful as it is," quoth he, nor any other paper could furnish light on this point. No doubt the hybrid party sailing under the false name of Socialist stands for something entirely different in this state than in any of the other forty-four, nor could anyone explain just what this is except the oracle who occupies the editorship of the "local privately-owned." He told his hearers also that they were wasting too much time prying into the philosophy of Socialism, which, he said, could take care of itself. They should devote their whole time to the gathering of subs for the aforesaid advertising medium. What was it paved the way in Milwaukee for Social Democratic victory? asked he. And he answered subs for the S. D. Herald, whereby it was enabled to inform its readers that the S. D. P. stood for lower prices of the necessities of life, and of its ability to lower them through controlling the city administration. Whether the "Enterpriser" will dare tell its corn and hog raising readers that the S. P. in Nebraska stands for lower prices for hogs and corn, the writer knoweth not, but it would not be surprising to see the S. P. take the stand for low priced pork chops in Milwaukee and a high price for hogs in Nebraska.

The speaker of the day, the Honorable Joseph Perkins, country merchant, ranch owner, and labor exploiter in general, told his auditors how his heart bled for the cause of humanity, of his admiration for John Bright, Richard Cobden, and even for W. E. Gladstone (the man who was opposed to the abolition of chattel slavery in the South), of his early association with Bryan, of a recent trip to his boyhood home in Leeds, England, of the terrible condition of the working class there and how he would have liked to have assisted some of them to reach Nebraska. All these inconsequential nothings he told his hearers. But did he give out any inkling or idea as to how the workers should organize for the coming great struggle? Nary a word, and for two good reasons. First, because no doubt he knows no more about how the workers should organize than one of the wild steers on his ranch, and, second, did not the oracular Mr. Wright of the "Enterpriser" tell "the comrades" that lingering with such ideas was a waste of time and detracted from their sub-getting ability? So then Hon. Joe prated about the corn laws of half a century ago and the present agitation for the abolition of the 'ouse of Lawds. He told us of the wonderful effect of his oratory on the English Socialists and how curious they were to see the latest specimen from Nebraska.

Of such stuff are S. P. speakers made. Their appearance on the Socialist rostrum is an insult to intelligent workingmen.

Observer.

Lincoln, Neb., April 19.

A VALUABLE DOCUMENT.

To comrades who keep a file of the documents issued by the Party we would announce that a few spare copies of the S. L. P. Report to the International Socialist Congress, Stuttgart, neatly printed and bound, may be had for 25 cents each.

**New York Labor News Co.,
28 City Hall Place,
New York.**

S. P. "RISING" SUN

Is Sinking, as Artist Shows, Despite S. P. Hysterics.

When the news from Milwaukee had been blazoned forth by the capitalist press several friends remarked to me "Well, I see you've elected a mayor in Milwaukee." Of course I explained to them that We hadn't, and they seemed to wonder greatly that I didn't set up the claim anyhow.

Now, far be it for me, or any S. L. P. man, to carp at the S. P. "success" in Milwaukee; nevertheless the S. P. is crowing so crazily over the event that some sober words are justifiable. Not but that crowing should be indulged in when victory is won, but is this at all a victory for Socialism? That is the question.

Let me first consider the facts pertaining to the Milwaukee election which led to the S. P. victory. One fact stands out clear—had there been no La Follette-Spooner fight in the Republican party Seidel could not have been elected mayor of Milwaukee. Again, had the Democratic party been at all acceptable to the La Follette forces Seidel would not have got their votes.

The question might here be raised, Would not the S. L. P. itself expect to draw votes from either or both of the old parties? Most assuredly, but, as I explained to A. S. Brown, a Brooklyn S. P. man, formerly in the S. L. P., the S. L. P. could not expect to poll such votes under such conditions as prevailed in Milwaukee. The disgruntled Republicans found no difficulty in voting for Seidel, for the reason that he stood upon a platform hardly to be distinguished from the platform of their own party, and almost identical with the platform of the Democratic party. This fact alone attests either one of two things: that the S. P. of Milwaukee is woefully reactionary, or, that the Rep-Dems are becoming "Socialistic."

Given the Milwaukee conditions the Socialist Labor Party, on the other hand, couldn't have elected a poundkeeper. It certainly could not have elected a mayor, or even have polled a respectable percentage of the La Follette votes, for the reason that the S. L. P. could not have projected a platform that was NOT to be distinguished from those of its capitalist opponents. The revolutionary platform of the S. L. P. would have driven away instead of attracted the merely disgruntled voter.

The Brooklyn S. P. man, to whom I have alluded, said my talk was "just like what could be expected of the S. L. P.," when I said that I did not see that anything for Socialism could be accomplished in Milwaukee. I then asked him what he could do if in Seidel's shoes. He could put every unemployed man to work, at union rates. Granting that he could, how would they be paid; by taxing the corporations? Then I recalled to him how Mayor Fagan of Jersey City had tried to tax the corporations, only to have the taxing power of that nature legislated out of his hands, until in the end he had to increase the general tax rate to meet his appropriations, which led to his Waterloo at the hands of the very people he had tried to benefit.

I am afraid that if the S. P. of Milwaukee have any such plans they will find a long weary journey before them, having to climb over many mountains in the shape of constitutions, state legislation, Supreme Court decisions, injunctions, etc., etc.

While it is apparent to close students of events that the S. P. as it is to-day is bound soon to disappear, still I consider it fortunate that it should win this Milwaukee victory in order to demonstrate, in a practical way, that S. P. tactics never could have accomplished anything for Socialism. The Milwaukee victory but hastens the end of the program that Debs began by needing a state in which to "demonstrate" Socialism; Berger winds up the era by "demonstrating" it in Milwaukee and then.—the curtain.

The S. P. men hereabouts have gone into hysterics over Milwaukee. One of them sees in it the quietus to the Labor party, while as a matter of fact, if it has any influence in that direction, it will be to stimulate the move for a Labor party. A Jersey City Kangaroo announced the other night, at a meeting of the W. S. & D. B. Society, that now he had seen the beginning of Socialism he was ready to die. He had seen the beginning, not of Socialism, but the beginning of the end of the S. P.

Of course it is little use talking to men of that stamp. They are the kind that swallow the dope of the privately-owned press:

Till their own dreams at length deceive 'em,
And, oft repeating they believe 'em.

The first S. P. man to get this Milwaukee affair right is the genius who made the picture appearing in the "Call" of Thursday, April 7. The picture is the stereotyped one showing the sun this time labeled "Socialism"; but it was a stroke of genius to show it sinking down behind the western horizon instead of rising in the east! The "Call" artist is not only an artist but a philosopher as well. He has strikingly used the Milwaukee event to illustrate that the sun of the S. P. is going down. T. H.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

R. L. B., NORTH ADAMS, MASS.—The actual reason why the Socialist party rejected the proffer of unity tendered by the Socialist Labor Party in January, 1908, was the belief the S. P. had hypnotized itself into that it was going to poll at least 1,500,000 votes. Dizzy with the hypnotic illusion the party lost what little sense it had.

P. Y., HELENA, MONT.—Exercise discrimination. Bigotry is not the monopoly of "creeds." We once met an Englishman who flew into a rage when told that his King Charles II. had by treaty with France, paid for with French money and with a pretty girl whom Charles made Duchess of Portsmouth, sold himself to Louis XIV. The poor Englishman, white with rage, declared all that 'a blooming lie." We know Germans who act similarly with regard to their Kaiser. Why, look at many an S. P. dupe. Mention to him any of the numerous and documentarily proven acts of corruption of his party, and the cords of his neck will swell, and he will yell "Daily People lie!" These are all manifestations of bigotry. Bigotry is the combination of ignorance with personal vanity and pepper-and-salted with material interests. Say anything that hurts the pepper-and-salted combination, and Bigotry will forthwith leap forth, like a Jack in a Box. Creeds have not the monopoly of the Jack-in-a-box.

C. H., WORCESTER, MASS.—Archbishop Sebastian G. Messmer, mentioned in the article, is the Roman Catholic prelate, located in Milwaukee, in whose hair Victor L. Berger has long had his fingers on account of the archbishop's assaults upon Socialism.

S. W., NEW YORK—Don't you think the capitalists detest the Daily People? Surely. Why? Because the Daily People is onto them. Now, then, just hold that mirror up to the face of "Socialists" and "Labor Leaders" who "detest the Daily People." Don't blame them. Would you blame a thief for hating the man who catches him? Be charitable.

C. T., PHILA., PA.—None can fully grasp a principle if he ignores the historic sequence. An economic organization that ignores political action may not at all be dynamitic, provided it never considered the subject. Such an organization may develop all right. On the contrary, the body that, having started with the recognition of the necessity of political action, strikes that out to the tune of "the ballot never did anything for Labor," such a body is redolent of dynamite and slummery. That's what the historic sequence tells.

W. A., SHEBOYGAN, WIS.—The article is not acceptable. Let there be no nagging, no carping criticism. Mention facts, however "inflamatory"; draw conclusions, as severe as the facts about Milwaukee may warrant. That will be all right—and acceptable. But no nagging, or carping criticism.

M. W. S., NEW YORK—In honor to the truth—No! Berger's Milwaukee papers were in striking contrast with the rest of the S. P. press, free from all sympathy with the I'm-a-Bummery, whether in Chicago, Spokane, or anywhere else. What Berger's papers failed to do in the Spokane riotings was what the S. L. P. press did—strike the note of warning against dynamitism.

M. D. G., DENVER, COLO.—Decay comes upon a usurping class in different ways and via different avenues. In France the decay came through the conduct of the nobility in exhausting their estates for luxurious ostentation—all of which went into the pockets of the bourgeoisie, and left the feudal lords pawned to the bourgeois up to their eye-brows. In England the decay came via physical slaughter of the nobility, a slaughter perpetrated by themselves upon themselves during the War of the Roses. It is still too early to determine by exactly what route the decay will undermine the modern Usurper.

D. S., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Buttress not your house with a weathercock.

CHARLES ROTHFISHER, NEW YORK—Seeing that, in the correction you send of The People's report, of the Hungarian convention, you strike out nearly two lines from the report as it appeared in The People, and you then seek to "correct" the mutilation that you left, your letter is refused publication, and will be forwarded to the N. E. C. of the S. L. P. for instructions.

H. W., LOUISVILLE, KY.—First, see above to D. S., Brooklyn, N. Y. In addition—would you bank upon a man who is ever persuaded against his better reason by those who approach his infirmer side?

A. T., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.—The real practical hindrance to the speedy progress of Socialism in the land is the circumstances that so many families, the members of which still recognize the family bonds, contain in their bosom the representatives of several classes—proletarians as well as employers. This is, of course, a vanishing phenomenon even in the West where the phenomenon is most frequent.

I. S. L., CHICAGO, ILL.—It is not merely ignorance, it is mainly hypocrisy that speaks when Socialism is charged with "desecrating the holy bands of matrimony with the Socialist principle of materialism." As old as the hills is the English proverb "No marriage where no pot boils." Nor is there a language we know of that has not a similar proverb among its very oldest. None but the insane ignore the materialist foundation of things: none but the hypocrite denies it.

J. S., MILWAUKEE, WIS.; F. H. K., CHICAGO, ILL.; H. B., MILWAUKEE, WIS.; E. J. H., PHILA., PA.; S. H., COLUMBIA, NEV.; F. C. R., NEWARK, N. J.; W. R. S., ROCHESTER, N. Y.; G. J. S., DEVIL'S LAKE, N. D.; G. A., MONTCLAIR, COLO.—Matter received.

Ancient Society

By Lewis H. Morgan

This is a great work, furnishing the ethnologic basis to the sociologic superstructure raised by Marx and Engels.

While the work needs close study most of it is easy reading. The student will read, and re-read, and find, each time, fresh facts not noticed before, and the opening of wider vistas not discovered at previous readings.

Those readers who have less time at their disposal may not be able to profit by the work to its full extent, but even one reading will store their minds with valuable knowledge and broaden their horizon so as to enable them to grasp the meaning of events now going on better than they could otherwise do.

The previous editions of the work were expensive, four dollars a volume being almost prohibitive, but the work is now within the reach of all.

The Labor News is prepared to furnish the work at the PRICE OF $1.50.

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OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

CANADIAN S. L. P., Philip Courtenay, National Secretary, 144 Duchess avenue, London, Ont.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., the Party's Literary Agency, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

NOTICE—For technical reasons no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 6 p. m.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

All orders for bundles of the Weekly People must be in this office, no later than 4 p. m., on the Tuesday preceding date of issue, to insure their being filled.

WANTED.

The names and addresses of Party members or sympathizers capable of reading and writing both the English and Polish languages.

Paul Augustine,
National Secretary.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

A regular meeting of the above committee was held at National Headquarters on Wednesday evening April 13th, with Lafferty in th chair. Members present: Mittleberg, Rosenberg, Kihn, Lafferty, Signarovitz, Schwartz, Schrafft, Deutsch, Hall, Lefkovits and Machauer. Absent and excused: Ball. Recording Secretary pro. tem., A. C. Kihn, Hall having arrived later.

Financial Report: Receipts $137.57. Expenditures $121.11.

Reports of Committees. Leaflet Distribution Fund Committee reported letters sent to organizations and stationery printed. No expenses to date. National Secretary reported circular letter drafted to be printed for distribution on the Special Fund matter. Olive M. Johnson, August Gillhaus and George Anderson, nominated for delegate to the coming International Socialist Congress, have declined the nomination. Since no one has accepted the nomination other than Daniel De Leon, it was moved by Lefkovits, seconded by Kihn: "That the nomination of Daniel De Leon be submitted to a general vote of the Party"; carried.

Correspondence. From S. L. P. of South Africa, Johannesburg, S. A., requesting information; granted. Lettish Socialist Labor Federation, Massachusettes S. E. C., Illinois S. E. C., Connecticut S. E. C., Section Manchester, N. H. and Mystic, Ia., ordering due stamps. From Washington S. E. C., Ohio S. E. C., Section Detroit, Mich., San Francisco, Calif., G. H. Fryhoff, Burlington, Ia., C. H. Spike, Fairbanks, Alaska, Paul Rissman, Raymond, Wash., agitation and Party matters. From Section Erie Co., N. Y. and Allegheny Co., Pa., remitting on International Bureau dues. From Section Holyoke, Mass., asking whether an S. L. P. member could accept appointment on a city commission, without salary, from a capitalist Mayor; national secretary was instructed to reply stating that acceptance of such appointment would be opposed to the principles and tactics of the Party. From Section Attleboro, Mass., suggesting that the best way to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of The Daily People would be for all the Sections to secure the admittance of the paper to all Public Libraries; referred to the Sections. From Section Baltimore, Md., requesting speaker for May Day Festival to be held on May 2nd; national secretary having accepted, it was moved by Kihn, seconded by Signarovites. "That the action of national secretary be indorsed"; carried. From Section Milwaukee, Wis., regarding S. D. P. campaigning in that city. From Bridgeport, Conn., regarding activity of so-called S. L. P. Propaganda Club; national secretary instructed manager of The People and Labor News to give said Club no official recognition, and it was moved by Kihn, seconded by Schrafft: "That action of national secretary be indorsed"; carried. From Section Providence, R. I., and Manchester, N. H., requesting lectures by De Leon. From Sam Schneider, Ancon, C. Z., Panama, application for membership-at-large; was moved by Rosenberg: seconded by Kihn, "That application be received and card granted"; carried. From Paul Kretlow, Berlin, Germany, regarding Party matters.

S. Moskovitz and national secretary Augustine reported on late convention of the Hungarian Socialist Labor Federation; moved by Kihn, seconded by Rosenberg, "That report of the delegates be accepted"; carried. A committee appearing from Section New York County requested the N. E. C. Sub Committee to issue a special call for contributions to be devoted to the purchase of literature for free distribution on the occasion of large strikes; moved by Lefkovits, seconded by Kihn, "That the request be concurred in"; carried.

Adjournment 11.20 p. m.,
John Hall, Secretary.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

NEW JERSEY S. E. C.

Meeting held on April 10th, at 11 Broome street, Newark, N. J. Present: Landgraf, Carroll, Miller, Merquelin, Gerold and Hossack.

Correspondence:—From Miller of Essex Co. in re State Campaign Fund. From Fitzgerald of Atlantic City suggesting the holding of public meetings in that city. Request of the N. E. C. Leaflet Committee for assistance, etc., and Labor News Report for 1909.

A poll of the vote cast for S. E. C. officers for the ensuing term showed the following elections—Secretary, P. Merquelin, 1121 Myrtle avenue, Plainfield; Financial Secretary, W. J. Carroll, 1076 Bond street, Elizabeth; Treasurer, W. E. Miller, Newark.

Necessary stationery and due stamps were ordered.

Receipts $12.25; disbursements, $14.26.

Adojurned to May 8th to meet at the same place at 3 p. m. Sections are requested to urge their delegates to attend as matters of considerable importance will be brought up.

P. M., Secretary.

OHIO S. E. C.

Meeting of the Ohio State Executive Committee held on April 11, with Comrade Bitchakoff in the chair. Absent without excuse, Ed. Polster and Jos. Reimann.

Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Bill of 30 cents for postage ordered paid.

Communications:—From H. Behr, Akron, proposes Cleveland as seat for next State Executive Committee; from J. Juergens, Canton, proposes Cleveland for same; from Peter Faber, Kent, proposes Cincinnati for same; from Max Eisenberg, Dayton, on general situation in Cincinnati and coming 1st of May meeting in that city; from Hy. Piper, Elyria, with $1 dues; from Section Cincinnati, want Kircher and Koeppel as English and German speakers respectively for May 1st; from H. Richter, Detroit, want speaker for May 1st.

Secretary was instructed to try and get Comrade Burt Rugg to deliver address on 1st of May festival in Cleveland, in which case Comrade Goerke will go to Detroit. Kircher and Koeppel were instructed to comply with request of Section Cincinnati.

Richard Koeppel, Secy.

DE LEON IN BOSTON.

Daniel De Leon, Editor of the Daily and Weekly People, will speak under the auspices of Section Boston, Socialist Labor Party, SUNDAY afternoon, April 24, 1910, at 3 o'clock, in Faneuil Hall, Boston. Subject: "Some Objections to Socialism." Questions pertaining to the subject invited. Admission free.

DE LEON IN MANCHESTER, N. H.

Daniel De Leon will lecture in the City Hall, Manchester, N. H., on MONDAY evening, April 25th, 7.45 o'clock. Subject: "Some Objections to Socialism." Admission free. Questions on the subject of the address invited after the lecture.

Press Committee.

SECTION ALLEGHENY, PA.

A meeting of Section Allegheny County, S. L. P., will be held SUNDAY, April 24th, 8 p. m., at 164 S. Eighteenth street, for the purpose of merging the 26th and 27th Ward Branches with the Mt. Washington Branch. All members of these Branches are requested to attend. Sympathizers are cordially invited.

L. M. Barkydt.

SECTION DENVER LECTURES.

A series of lectures on the Labor Movement are given under the auspices of Section Denver, Socialist Labor Party, at 926 Fifteenth street, Charles Building. Lectures in the afternoon at 2:30 sharp.

APRIL 24—Trades Union in Action. Free admission. Everybody invited.

BROOKLYN PACKAGE PARTY!

An Entertainment and Package Party will be held by the Jewish Socialist Federation, for the benefit of "Der Arbeiter," on SATURDAY, April 23, 8 p. m., at the Labor Forum, 762 Broadway, Brooklyn, N. Y. Admission 10 cents.

Comrades and friends: All who have the welfare of "Der Arbeiter" at heart should be present and help make this a success. Bring packages. Don't fail to come, for all are assured of a pleasant evening.

CALL TO ARMS, OHIOANS!

To all Sections, Members, Sympathizers and Friends of the Socialist Labor Party of Ohio.

Comrades and Friends:—This is a trying time for the working class of Ohio the same as everywhere, but it is also a time that offers the most splendid opportunities to our movement, and it is up to us whether we will avail ourselves of these opportunities or allow them, by our indifference, to be coined into political capital by labor deceiving reform movements, and successfully so, as the case of the "Socialist victory" in Milwaukee shows. "The appetite comes with the eating," as a German saying goes, and in accordance with this saying the S. P., far from clarifying and revolutionizing their platform, principles and tactics, will continue to further "Bernsteinize" their movement and to get the working class ever further away from genuine Socialist reasoning and revolutionary methods and tactics. The inevitable result of this Milwaukee conception of Socialism, now coming to serve as the "standard" for the S. P. in the whole country, can only be one of dismal failure and lamentable Waterloo as far as the interests of the working class are concerned. The Milwaukee "victory" will prove to be only a victory for the "Milwaukee Idea," of the Berger ringleaders getting into office on the backs of the workingmen. Not until the "Milwaukee Idea" got into a position to prove its merits, could there be any hope to convince of its hollowness and emptiness that "Socialistically inclined" portion of the working class who to-day uphold, defend and support that Milwaukee school of "Socialism." And when the above mentioned Waterloo comes as come it must, the blame for it will not be hurled against the Milwaukee movement in particular, but against the Socialist movement in general.

To meet this reproach, against which we will have to combat in Ohio as well as elsewhere, the Socialist Labor Party must be prepared and it must begin its work NOW. More activity, more strenuous attempts than ever to organize and educate the workers, is necessary, and we have to confess to ourselves that, at present, the state of Ohio is woefully indifferent to the duties it owes to the movement. It is true the S. L. P. is holding its own in the state, but this should be far from satisfactory, and you know, comrades, "he who does not advance, goes backward." The work of organizing is at a standstill and has been so for about two years. Don't you think it is time to wake up? Do you agree with us that there are thousands of workingmen in the state ready to join our ranks if they are only shown how? and cities and towns that with proper efforts could be organized? Yes, there are without question. We MUST build up our party organization in the state if we want to be at all worthy of the name of revolutionary Socialists. Don't say it can not be done! Of course we can not break through walls with our heads but there is absolutely no excuse whatever for the deplorable indifference manifested at present by the state membership. The comrades acted wisely in voting against holding a state convention this year. Our candidates can be nominated just as well by referendum vote, and the money can be used to greater advantage for organizing purposes. But in order to secure, for our candidates, a place on the official ballot we must gather about 10,000 signatures. What a tremendous task this is the comrades know from experience. This alone is one of the many reasons why we must build up our organization. And you, comrade, simply have to help! Don't postpone till to-morrow, act to-day! Get your Section together and consider this call seriously. If the Section in your city is defunct, make all efforts possible to reorganize. If member-at-large, try hard to induce a sufficient number of your friends to organize a Section. If sympathizer in an unorganized town, become at once member-at-large. No admission fee, dues 25 cents a month, application to be made to the undersigned.

Comrades! Be up and doing! Take new courage! The future for the S. L. P. is brighter than ever. But you must put your shoulder to the wheel. Remember: if the workingmen won't come to us we have to go to the workingmen, if new members won't join us of their own account, we have to go after new members. In some cities a little more activity has made itself manifest of late and we hope it will spread to other cities. Your State Executive Committee will do all in ITS power and within the limits of its financial means, to help the good work along. We can furnish the speakers but you must provide the opportunities for their work. As the class struggle never ceases you have no right to stop fighting and sit behind the stove! Roll up your sleeves, comrades, and get into harness again, seriously, courageously and energetically! We have no time to be "tired"! We want to hear from Columbus, Toledo, Canton, Akron, Hamilton and Cincinnati as soon as possible. Keep in constant communication with your State Executive Committee, so that this office is posted on what you are doing. A new great battle is ahead of us. We call you to arms! Rally around the time honored banner of the old fighting S. L. P.!

State Executive Committee S. L. P. of Ohio.

Richard Koeppel, Rec. Secretary.
2416 East 9th street, Cleveland, O.

RALLY TO THE WORK

You, Who Have Red Blood, Join the Propaganda Brigade.

In order to achieve its emancipation the working class must be educated and organized along Socialist lines, hence the greatest duty that rests upon every S. L. P. man is that of propaganda. The best way in which to spread the propaganda is by working for the widest diffusion of the Party Press and Literature among the wage workers.

In the face of this recognized fact how can the member, who does Nothing to extend the propaganda, justify himself? We do not see how he can justify his inactivity.

All cannot be speakers, editors, or writers, but all can do some Work for the Movement—Work that is equally as important. The work of the editor and writer cannot reach without the work of the comrades who push the subscription lists. It is the combined work of All that counts.

We have been hammering away at the idea that the most fitting manner in which to celebrate the Daily People's Tenth Anniversary is by adding 10,000 new readers to the Daily People and Weekly People lists by July 1, 1910.

In order to accomplish this desirable end it is but necessary to find 1,000 stalwarts who will each get ten readers. There are surely 1,000 S. L. P. men who can measure up to the task of getting ten readers, but we are still far short of that number on our enrollment.

It may be that some of you think it a big job to get ten readers, but it is not such a tremendous task as you may imagine. Try it and see. It means some work, of course. It means talking the matter up with your shopmates; it means getting around a bit among your friends, but after all isn't that just what you pledged yourself to do as a Party member?

Delay no longer. Get into the spirit of the plan to push the Party propaganda as it has never been pushed before. Enlist as one of the 1,000 Brigade. Do it Now. Enlist Now, and hustle after readers right Now, and we'll get those 10,000 new readers by July 1.

Of those who enrolled in the Daily People Tenth Anniversary Club, fifteen have each sent in subs to the amount of five dollars or over. A goodly number have less than five dollars credited to them as yet, but we feel sure they will all make good. Some who were the first to enlist haven't sent a sub yet. Time is passing. Be up and doing before July 1 is here and sees your task undone.

The roll of honor, those sending two or more subscriptions, was pretty good last week, but it could easily be doubled, yes, and trebled. It will be if you will only jump in and help do some of the hustling.

On to the 10,000 new readers by July 1, 1910.

J. W. Stewart, Tucson, Ariz.	2
G. M. Metzger, Pine Bluff, Ark.	2
F. W. Anderson, Benecia, Cal.	5
A. Gillhaus, Los Angeles, Cal.	3
H. J. Schade, Los Angeles, Cal.	2
D. Biell, Pasadena, Cal.	2
S. L. P. Section, Denver, Colo.	4
F. Knotek, Hartford, Conn.	8
G. Richter, Middletown, Conn.	3
H. Finken, Mystic, Conn.	3
C. E. Warner, New Haven, Conn.	2
O. Ruckser, West Haven, Conn.	2
J. Hamrle, Chicago, Ill.	2
J. M. Francis, Du Quoin, Ill.	2
L. C. Borup, Clinton, Ia.	2
A. E. Reimer, Boston, Mass.	3
H. Brandborg, Parkers Prairie, Minn	3
S. L. P. Section, St. Paul, Minn.	4
J. Scheidler, St. Louis, Mo.	9
J. Hossack, Jersey City, N. J.	2
J. Reese, Plainfield, N. J.	4
L. F. Alrutz, Schenectady, N. Y.	8
H. Eisenach, Schenectady, N. Y.	3
E. Rosenberg, New York	2
F. Brown, Cleveland, O.	5
J. E. Steiger, Hamilton, O.	2
W. Adamek, E. Pittsburg, Pa.	2
L. M. Barhydt, Homestead, Pa.	2
J. W. McAlarney, Juniata, Pa.	2
R. McLure, Philadelphia, Pa.	3
G. W. Ohls, Pittsburg, Pa.	4
W. Hewitt, Pottstown, Pa.	2
R. Burns, Hamilton, Ont.	2

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

"The Executioner's Knife, or, Joan of Arc," the latest Sue story to appear in book form, came in from the binders sooner than we expected. John Kircher, of Cleveland, starts its sale with an order for 100 copies; J. C. Butterworth, Paterson, N. J., 15; G. Signarovitz, Brooklyn, N. Y., 10, in addition to $6.32 for other books; J. Lindgren, Brooklyn, N. Y., 2; J. Greenwood, Newark, N. J., 2; J. Hossack, Jersey City, N. J., 7; J. Graff, New York, 5.

The New York Party Press Volunteers are doing some tall hustling in selling pamphlets. They sold 236 books at two meetings recently.

Other orders were: Juniata, Pa., $10; Vancouver, B. C., $4; Buffalo, N. Y., $5.43; Salt Lake City, Utah, $4.73; Lawrence, Mass., $3.75; New York, $2; Seattle, Wash., $1; Superior, Wis., $1.28; Brooklyn, N. Y., $2; St. Paul, Minn., $1. On the whole, this is a record that could stand much improvement. Spread the propaganda.

MAY DAY IN CINCINNATI.

Comrades, sympathizers and readers of The People:

Section Cincinnati, S. L. P., will celebrate the First of May with a Mass Meeting to be held at Cosmopolitan Hall, 1313 Vine street, at 2 p. m. Sunday, May 1. John Kircher, Ohio, N. E. C. member of the Socialist Labor Party, will explain the aims and tactics of the Party. Richard Koeppel, editor of the "Sozialistische Arbeiter-Zeitung" will speak in German.

Make this meeting known among your shopmates and friends. Admission free.

MAY DAY IN DETROIT.

A grand First of May demonstration of all workers of Detroit and vicinity will take place at Socialist Turn Hall, Sherman street, near Russel, on SUNDAY, May First 2.30 P. M. John D. Goerke, of Cleveland, O., of the Socialist Labor Party will deliver the principal address, "The Significance of May Day." German, Polish and Hungarian speakers will follow.

All workers should be present. Admission free.

Arranged by Section Detroit and Locals of the I. W. W.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

OPERATING FUND.

Contributions to this fund since last report:

W. S. & D. B. S., Branch No. 40, Detroit, Mich.	5.00
Workmen's Circle, Branch No. 87, New York	1.00
N. A. Anderson, Eaton, Col.	.50
H. Petersen, Clinton, Ia.	1.50
J. Vandoorne, Lawr'nce, Mass	.50
J. Lindgren, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1.50
S. Thompson, New York	2.00
Total	12.00
Previously acknowledged	6,259.98
Grand total	$6,271.98

MAY DAY IN PHILADELPHIA.

International Labor Day will be celebrated in Philadelphia by holding a mass meeting in Mercantile Hall, 821 Franklin street, 2.30 P. M. under the auspices of Joint Committee of the Socialist Labor Party. Speakers in different languages will deliver short addresses. Besides Section Phila., S. L. P., the Hungarian Federation, S. L. P., Lettish Federation, S. L. P., South Slavonian Federation, S. L. P., Jewish Federation, S. L. P. will take part in the meeting. All readers of the Party press and friends are urged to attend.

Section meeting on SUNDAY, April 24, at 800 Parrish street, 5 P. M. Important business.

R. McLure.

MAY DAY IN ST. LOUIS.

Section St. Louis, Socialist Labor Party, will celebrate May Day at its headquarters, 1717 S. Broadway, on SATURDAY, April 30, 8 p. m. There will be speechmaking, music, and dancing. Refreshments will be served. Admission 15 cents. All friends and workingmen are invited to join this celebration.

The Committee.

CALL TO AID S. L. P. PROPAGANDA IN THE NORTHWEST.

To Members and Sympathizers of the Socialist Labor Party of the Pacific Northwest:

Greeting:—The Washington State Executive Committee has engaged Comrades Charles Pierson and August Gillmaus to carry on a campaign of propaganda in the Northwest this coming summer in the interest of the Socialist Movement. Pierson will begin work at Portland, Oregon, on April 15th, and from there he will make a tour of Washington and British Columbia, speaking, selling Party literature, and securing subscriptions for our Party papers. About June 1st, Gillhaus will follow Pierson, and make his tour of agitation and organization.

In order to carry on this propaganda among the workers, we must have FUNDS. As the emancipation of the working class must be the work of the working class, we urgently request all members of the S. L. P., and our sympathizers in the Northwest to contribute to a fund to carry on this work of education and organization.

If all our members and those in sympathy with this grand movement for working class freedom will contribute to the limit of their ability, we will be enabled to carry on such a campaign in this territory this summer as will cause the master class to tremble, and force the freaks and fakirs to take to the tall timber.

We trust that every member and sympathizer of the S. L. P. will nobly respond to this appeal for aid, and help us propagate our principles.

Send donations by P. O. money order or registered letter to the undersigned State Secretary.

Washington State Ex Committee,
J. E. Riordan, Financial Secretary.
1911 E. Thomas street, Seattle, Wash.

SECTION SEATTLE CELEBRATION.

International Labor Celebration will be held on May 1, at Columbia Hall, Seventh avenue, between Pike and Union street, Seattle, Wash., by Section Seattle, S. L. P., and the Seattle S. L. P. Language Federations.

Programme:

1. Overture— S.L.P. Band
2. Piano Solo— C. Sears
3. Southern Comedy— Edward Nelson, Claude Hill
4. Song— Mrs. Steve Brearcliff
5. Recitation—Miss Helen McPherson, (the four-year-old agitator.)
6. Violin Solo—Prof. E. O. Cavanaugh
7. Speech— John Monette
8. Recitation— Mrs. F. Blowers
9. Selection— Band
10. —Song: Quintette— Miss O. Blowers, Miss P. Blowers, Burke Blowers, Mrs. Weir, Will Weir.
11. Speech— Harold Lang.
12. Song— Mrs. Durkenfield.
13. Violin Solo— M. Warsett.
14. Marseillaise— Band.
15. Grand Ball till midnight.

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WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE

AN ADDRESS delivered by DANIEL DE LEON, *under the auspices of the Socialist Women of Greater New York.*

The author presents the subject historically, showing that Woman's Suffrage is but a part of the Suffrage Question, which in turn is but a feature of Class Rule—the Modern Social Question.

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When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

UNDER AUSTRALIAN SKIES.

(Continued from page 1.)

he had done he was offending against the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, but he did not know he was guilty of conspiracy. If the law was as had been laid down, every trades unionist would be technically guilty of conspiracy, and would be liable to imprisonment. If this is part of what is done in a free country then he wished to go to Siberia, where they don't talk about their freedom. In concluding a vigorous speech Bowling said, "I'm in your hands, your Honor, and you have to impose what punishment you consider the offence merits. I ask for no mercy." Subsequently the union prisoners were removed to Goulbourn Jail, heavily manacled and leg-ironed, and treated as vile desperate criminals.

The strike subsequently fizzled out under the influence of the Compulsory Wages Board. A conference was arranged by the strike breaking labor fakirs, and the miners went back to work on the old conditions.

The strikers were defeated by the power of the capitalist executive, but the experience gained has been valuable, and a mining department of the I. W. W. will probably be set up in the near future.

A reign of terror prevails in the various capitalist state departments, privileges have been curtailed, and those discovered holding Socialist opinions are subject to dismissal. Such would be the state ownership of the coal mines which the "Labor" party advocates.

These are the scenes of working class tragedy enacted on the stage under Australian skies.

W. F.

SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

San Francisco, Cal., 49 Dubose avenue, Headquarters and reading room of Section San Francisco, Cal., Socialist Labor Party, Hungarian Socialist Labor Federation, Lettish Socialist Labor Federation, and Scandinavian Discussion Club at 49 Dubose avenue.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading room at 317 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 1808 Elm street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Headquarters of Section Portland, Oregon, S. L. P., and Scandinavian Labor Federation, 224½ Washington street, Rooms 1 and 2.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets first and third Sunday of the month at 3 p. m., at Headquarters, 2416 East 9th street.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters, 815 Hamilton street.

Section Hartford, Conn., meets every second Wednesday in the month at 8 p. m., at Headquarters, 34 Elm street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer street, room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P. P. Merquelin, Secretary, 1121 Myrtle avenue, Plainfield; W. J. Carroll, Financial Secretary, 1076 Bond street, Elizabeth.

Chicago, Illinois—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party meets every first and third Friday, 8 p. m., at Friedman's Hall, Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women invited.

Headquarters Section Seattle, Wash., Sullivan Building, 712 First avenue, Rooms 208 and 210. P. O. Box 1854. Propaganda meetings every Sunday, 8 p. m., Columbia Hall, 7th avenue between Pike and Union streets.

Section Tacoma, Wash., S. L. P., Headquarters and free reading room, Room 304, Wallace Building, 12th and A streets.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Herbert Johnson, 487 Como avenue, St. Paul, Minn.

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P., holds a business meeting the second Sunday of each month at Federation Hall, Corner Third and Wabasha streets, at 10 a. m.

Section Denver meets every Sunday afternoon at 926—15th street. The first meeting of each month will be for business, the others for lectures. Agent of Party organs, Al. Wernet, Hotel Carlton, 15th and Glenarm streets.

Section Minneapolis, Minn., S. L. P. meets the second Saturday of each month at 8 p. m., at Union Temple, Room 4. Address of Literary Agent is Peter Riel, 2516 West 21st street.

Section Boston, Mass., meets every first and third Thursday in the month, at 8 p. m., at 694 Washington street. Discussions at every meeting. All sympathizers invited.